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Japan

USSR Nuclear Talks Set for 'Mid-September'

OW1508094891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0933 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 15 KYODO—Japan and the Soviet Union will hold their first bilateral talks on Tokyo's nuclear technology assistance to the ailing economy in Moscow around mid-September, government sources said Thursday. The talks are an embodiment bilateral agreement on cooperation for peaceful use of nuclear power, struck when Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev visited Japan in April.

The sources said the negotiations will focus on control of nuclear power plants, basic research, disposal of radioactive waste, and construction of nuclear plants in the Far East—issues where the Soviets have been asking for Japanese help through bilateral private sector talks.

The planned talks will come as the Soviet Union, lacking in nuclear technology, is facing the possibility of a severe energy shortage.

The group of seven (G-7) industrial nations promised a wide range of intellectual and technological aid to the Soviet Union when they met in London in mid-July. The G-7 groups Japan, the United States, Germany, Britain, France, Italy, and Canada.

Japanese Minister of International Trade and Industry Eiichi Nakao pledged at the summit meeting to accept 1,000 trainees from the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, and developing nations over the next 10 years to boost the safety of nuclear plants in these technologically backward nations.

The sources said, however, that massive costs will keep the Japanese team cautious about immediately lending a helping hand to Soviet efforts to build nuclear plants. One nuclear plant costs 300 billion yen to build.

Instead, the Japanese representatives will limit their assistance to maintenance and control of nuclear plants, according to the sources.

Official Remarks on Kaifu's PRC Visit, Results

OW1508091891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0902 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 15 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu appears to have won China's understanding on the dispatching of Japanese troops to participate in UN peacekeeping forces, a senior government spokesman said Thursday.

Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Nobuo Ishihara told a news conference that Chinese Communist Party General Secretary Jiang Zemin's silence following Kaifu's explanation of Japan's plan to send personnel, as well as material goods, to assist in UN peacekeeping activities, had indicated tacit approval.

Ishihara cited as evidence of China's acceptance Jiang's agreement with Japan that the new international order should be centered on the United Nations, and the agreeable atmosphere during the talks.

Kaifu met Jiang on Monday during an official four-day visit to Beijing, the first by a leader of a major industrialized democracy since the 1989 Tiananmen Square crackdown on pro-democracy activists.

Earlier in the day, a senior Japanese Government official suggested that Japan has accepted China's claim that it is respecting human rights in its own way.

Chinese leaders had told Kaifu that a different human rights standard should be applied to China because of its large population and position as a developing country.

"The United States and others are apparently seeking the release of political prisoners," said the official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

"But even if the motivation of the political offenders was to promote the democratic movement, they set trains on fire and did other things that clearly violated criminal law," the Japanese government official said.

Kaifu, Nakayama Return From PRC, Mongolia

OW1408125091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1149 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Excerpt] Tokyo, Aug. 14 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama returned to Tokyo from Ulaanbaatar via Beijing on Wednesday, wrapping up a six-day tour of China and Mongolia. [passage omitted]

U.S. 'Jamming' Disrupts Air Traffic Control

OW1408040091 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 13 Aug 91 Morning Edition p 23

[Text] According to investigations by the Okinawan Air Traffic Chapter of the National Transport Ministry Workers' Union (chairman, Yu Zamami) on the first day of the joint U.S.-Japanese Cope North '91 military exercise, which was held for 10 days from 23 July, electronic radio jamming believed to have originated from U.S. forces' reconnaissance planes resulted in disorders in air traffic control radar at Naha Airport a total of three times in the morning and afternoon. After the labor union detected the radar disorders, it immediately protested to the U.S. 5th Air Force (Yokota Base, Tokyo), which coordinated the exercise, and asked that the EA-6B Prowler reconnaissance planes, believed to be the source of jamming, be stopped from flying.

In view of the fact that air traffic control radar is indispensable every single second to ensure air safety, the labor union stressed: "The U.S. forces' behavior was extremely reckless. The jamming of radio waves is completely unthinkable on mainland Japan. Dangerous exercises are being held over and around Okinawa without the prefecture's people knowing it. It is necessary for the prefecture's people to start a movement to oppose military exercises."

According to the labor union, disorders in the radar were found three times, at 1055 [0155 GMT], 1448 [0548 GMT] and 1525 [0625 GMT] on 23 July. In particular, disorders occurred intermittently for a duration of 37 minutes in the afternoon. Air traffic control officers found out that the jamming originated from the U.S. military's northern training airspace. There had also been jamming during the Cope North exercises last year, but the source had not been determined.

Joint U.S.-Japanese military exercises coordinated by the Air Self-Defense Force's Naha Base and the U.S. forces' Kadena Air Base were conducted from 23 July to 1 August. During the exercises, the U.S. forces used the northern training air space off Iejima. About 30 aircraft took part in the exercises, including F-4 Phantom fighters from the Self-Defense Forces' Naha Base, RF-4 Phantom reconnaissance planes from the Hyakuri Base, Ibaraki Prefecture, and the U.S. forces' F-15 and F-16 fighters, AV-8 Harrier vertical takeoff and landing bombers, and EA-6B Prowler electronic reconnaissance planes.

The maneuvers were called "antifighter exercises for other types of aircraft." Training on quick computer identification of friend and foe and simulated missile attacks were held. During the exercises, the Prowlers were believed to have emitted jamming signals.

Chairman Zamami said, "Only the EA-6B Prowlers could have emitted jamming signals in this recent exercise. We immediately protested to the airspace coordinating officer of the U.S. 5th Air Force and asked that the Prowlers be stopped from taking to the skies. Radar disorders during peak tourist season is a serious problem."

In reply to the labor union's protest, the U.S. 5th Air Force said that "the EA-6B Prowlers might have emitted jamming signals by mistake." It reportedly stopped the Prowlers from flying, but continued with the Japan-U.S. joint maneuvers.

Anniversary of Surrender to Allied Forces Noted

U.S. Urged To Apologize

OW1508105491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1028 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 15 (KYODO)—The United States should join Japan in apologizing for World War II, a government spokesman said Thursday, the anniversary of Japan's surrender to allied forces 46 years ago.

"The entire world is responsible for the war," Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Nobuo Ishihara said after he was asked whether Japan should apologize to the United States on the 50th anniversary of the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor.

Asked if that meant the U.S., too, should apologize, he said yes.

"Because war could not be avoided, all those involved should reflect.... It will take tens or hundreds of years before the correct judgment is delivered on who is responsible for the war," Ishihara said.

Honolulu Mayor Frank Fasi has asked President George Bush to invite Japanese officials to ceremonies marking the 50th anniversary of the attack, provided that the Japanese agree to formally apologize.

Fasi was quoted as saying that Japan should apologize, as it has already to many Asian nations, so that the two countries can start a "new era."

Fasi said there was no need for the U.S. to apologize to Japan for the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

In Japan, opinion remains divided about whether Japan should be blamed for the outbreak of World War II in the Pacific.

Some say that U.S. "bullying," including an embargo on oil imports and other items essential to resource-poor Japan, gave Tokyo little choice but to attack the U.S.

After Japan, which had launched a full-scale war in northern China in 1937, invaded northern Indochina in September 1940, the U.S. began embargoing exports. And in the wake of Japan's move into southern Indochina in the summer of 1941, Washington froze Japanese assets in the U.S.

Uniformed veterans interviewed at Tokyo's Yasukuni Shrine, where they meet annually on this day to remember their compatriots who died in the war, had mixed views.

Sadahei Amakasa, 70, who was in the Navy, said he had regarded the attack on Pearl Harbor as a mistake from the very beginning.

"I liked the U.S. I considered Hollywood movie stars to be my lovers. But the stupid army made us go to war," said Amakasa, a ruddy-cheeked rice shopkeeper who says his love affair with the U.S. is still on.

Another Navy veteran, Takayoshi Ishigaki, rapped Japan's mass media for failing to say that the war was America's fault.

Then U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt pushed Japan into a corner by demanding that it pull out of China if it wanted the boycott lifted, Ishikgaki said.

"He knew Japan could not accept that, so it would go to war," said Ishigaki, a food company executive, offering to send a book to the reporter to prove his point.

Spokesman Ishihara said the government has no plans at present to mark the anniversary of the surprise attack on the U.S. fleet at Pearl Harbor, which took place December 7 local time, or December 8 Japanese time.

He declined to say how Japan would respond if the U.S. invites it to the ceremonies in Hawaii.

Akihito, Kaifu Pay Respects

OW1508041691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0359 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 15 KYODO—Emperor Akihito, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, and other representatives paid respect to Japan's war dead Thursday at a memorial service marking the 46th anniversary of Japan's surrender at the end of World War II.

In a speech at the annual government-sponsored ceremony in Tokyo's Budokan Hall, which began shortly before noon, Kaifu said, "it is a serious duty for everyone to pass on stories of the irreplaceable lives of the war dead to younger generations and establish a permanent peace so as not to repeat the ravages of war."

"I pledge to do my best for establishment of world peace and the realization of true prosperity harmonious to international society," Kaifu said.

Some 6,500 bereaved family members and another 1,000 representatives from various circles, standing in the auditorium, observed a minute of silence at noon.

The late Emperor Showa, father of Emperor Akihito, declared to the Japanese people at noon 46 years ago the acceptance of the terms of Japanese surrender laid down in the Potsdam Declaration of the countries allied against Japan.

Emperor Akihito said, "there have passed 46 years since the end of the war. Today, amid peace and prosperity built by people's unceasing efforts, I can not stop being deeply moved when I recall the past full of hardships."

Leaders from the both houses of the Diet—the House of Councillors and the House of Representatives—and the Supreme Court made statements of condolence to Japan's 3.1 million war dead.

Tatsuko Sanba, 50, from Nara Prefecture, whose father died in China in 1945, offered words of condolence as a representative of bereaved families.

The representatives laid flowers on the white memorial podium in front of the Monument to the War Dead while the "Eroica" symphony was being played.

Representatives of the bereaved families from each of Japan's 47 prefectures and from an Association of Taiwanese Veterans attended the ceremony.

Japan went to war with China in July 1937 and with the United States through a surprise attack on the U.S. Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor in December 1941.

The 3.1 million people who died between 1937 and 1945 consisted of 2.3 million military personnel and 800,000 civilians.

Ministers Pay Respects

OW1508103491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1008 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 15 KYODO—Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and seven other members of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's cabinet paid their respects to Japan's war dead Thursday with a visit to Yasukuni Shrine in central Tokyo.

However, Prime Minister Kaifu, who returned Wednesday from a five-day trip to China and Mongolia, did not worship as government head at the shrine dedicated to the Japanese war dead for the third consecutive year.

Kaifu attended a memorial service at Tokyo's Budokan Hall with Emperor Akihito to mark the 46th anniversary of the end of World War II.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto, like Kaifu, did not visit the shrine in consideration of the feelings of neighboring countries in Asia that suffered before and during the war under Japanese militarism.

Altogether 12 members of Kaifu's cabinet made visits to the shrine by Thursday. Four ministers paid their respects earlier.

Last year, 18 ministers of the Kaifu cabinet worshiped at Yasukuni Shrine and 16 ministers in 1989.

In August 1985, then Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone officially visited the Yasukuni Shrine. At that time, China and other Asian nations protested the premier's visit to the shrine, saying his paying homage at the shrine, where war criminals were collectively enshrined, would help revive Japanese militarism.

Since 1986, no prime minister has worshiped at the shrine.

Cabinet ministers are left to decide themselves whether they will visit the shrine.

Economic Planning Agency Director General Michio Ochi said he visits the shrine every year as a member of the House of Representatives, but this year came "as a state minister."

Others who signed the registry as "state ministers" included Post and Telecommunications Minister Katsutsugu Sekiya and Health and Welfare Minister Shinichiro Shimojo.

Justice Minister Megumu Sato and Education Minister Yutaka Inoue registered as private citizens.

Opposition Issues Statements

OW1408171891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1347 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 14 KYODO—Five opposition parties issued statements Wednesday on the eve of the 46th anniversary of Japan's surrender to the allies in World War II, calling for achievement of world peace.

The Social Democratic Party (SDP) said in a statement that it hopes the United States and the Soviet Union will continue efforts to promote strategic arms control, reduce conventional weapons, and prohibit arms export.

The SDP, the country's largest opposition party, said it will continue to press the government to change its policy on the build- up of the Self-Defense Forces (SDF).

Japan's second largest opposition party, Komeito, accused the government of strengthening the SDF in the post-cold war era, adding Japan must take a major role in promoting world peace.

The Japanese Communist Party (JCP) said in a statement that Japan should take the initiative in creating a peaceful world order, peaceful solutions to international conflicts, and the scrapping of military alliances.

The Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) said Japan must contribute more actively on the international stage in the post-cold war era, while the United Social Democratic Party (USDP) noted that Japan has been asked to take "moderate" steps to participate in U.N. peacekeeping operations.

SDP, Komeito Leaders on Role in UN Operations

OW1508041491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0406 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 15 KYODO—Social Democratic Party [SDP] Chairman Makoto Tanabe on Thursday pledged again to do everything possible for the realization of disarmament and peace "to mark the 50th anniversary of the outbreak of war between Japan and the United States."

Tanabe was speaking at a memorial meeting for war victims at a Chidorigafuchi graveyard neighboring the imperial palace in central Tokyo on the occasion of the 46th anniversary of Japan's surrender at the end of World War II. The Japan-U.S. war began in December 1941 with Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor.

The newly elected chairman of the No. 1 opposition party also said, "Japan should show the attitude of going up the new stairs toward disarmament while blocking further military expansion of Japan in order to start positive actions for disarmament in Asia."

At a separate rally on a street in Tokyo's Shinjuku District, Komeito Chairman Koshiro Ishida said Japan should cut down the strength of its Self-Defense Forces (SDF) to show proof of its commitment to disarmament if it "really joins" United Nations peacekeeping activities.

The government and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party plan to present a bill to the Diet that would allow the SDF to participate in U.N. peacekeeping operations.

The SDP opposes the dispatching of SDF personnel for U.N. peacekeeping operations. Komeito has not clarified its stance on the government proposal.

MITI Plans New Retail Inspection System

OW1408131691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1220 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 14 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) will triple the number of inspection offices in Japan for smoother examination of planned large-scale retail stores, sources at the ministry said Wednesday.

The government has decided to relax laws for the opening of big stores from the beginning of next year.

Setting up a stronger and more efficient inspection system to examine blueprints of new large-scale stores is a key to effective implementation of the revised Large-Scale Retail Stores Law.

According to the sources, MITI plans to increase the number of inspection offices to about 50, three times the current number.

There will be roughly about one office for each prefecture. But in some prefectures, like Chiba, Saitama, and Hokkaido, where new stores proposals have mushroomed recently, more than one inspection office will be set up.

Each office will hire between five and nine inspectors, whose names will be made public to maintain the transparency of the examination process, the sources added. The inspectors will be selected from now.

MITI also plans to set up subsections of the Large-Scale Retail Stores Council in its nine regional bureaus in order to deal with problems which inspection offices cannot solve, according to the sources.

NEDO Begins Research on Photosensitive Glass

OW1508045491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1107 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 14 KYODO—The New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO) said Wednesday it has embarked on a five-year research project to develop a new energy- saving photosensitive glass for use in homes and buildings.

If the project is successful, blinds or curtains will no longer be required to block or filter out light, or heat from the sun, officials said.

Conventional glass made from electrochromic glazing can be switched off and on, becoming foggy or transparent, using electrical current.

Some lenses used in sunglasses darken when the sun shines and brighten when it is cloudy.

The 500 million yen project will seek to develop a new type of electrochromic glazing glass which uses an electrical current to produce variations of colors to increase or dim the amount of light or heat penetration from the sun's rays, officials said.

NEDO officials said the glass would be able to reduce the sun rays, or heat in a room while the air conditioner is running or brighten the room on cloudy days, reducing the need for lighting.

The project will seek to produce a variety of colors such as blue, black, Japanese green tea, and other hues by sandwiching a layer of tungsten and oxygen between two thin glass panel and supplying an electrical current.

North Korea

Grand March Squad Arrives in Panmunjom

SK1508000191 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2314 GMT 14 Aug 91

[By Pak Tae-u in Panmunjom]

[Text] The Mt. Paektu-Mt. Halla grand march for the promotion of national reunification, which was prevented from going to the South in Panmunjom on 13 August by the vile obstructive maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet rings, arrived in Panmunjom again today to come to Seoul.

Together with youths and students of the North; delegates of overseas youths and students; and Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung, nation-saving, iron-willed members and delegates of the National Council of University Student Representatives who were dispatched here to guide them to Seoul, members of Mt. Paektu-Mt. Halla grand march for promotion of national reunification proudly came to the fore of Panmungak while waving flags and beating drums, to come to Seoul, without fail, by crossing Panmunjom, on the significant day marking the 46th anniversary of national liberation.

Delegation Obstructed From Going South

SK1508004391 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2333 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] At the moment, owing to the malicious obstructive maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities who have not allowed members of the grand march to cross Panmunjom, a long reunification march of the grand march has not begun.

Our side's members of the Military Armistice Commission told members of Mt. Paektu-Mt. Halla grand march for promotion of national reunification that the U.S. forces side has not guaranteed their personal security, that it even blocks them from passing the boundary line of Panmunjom, and thus that they cannot go over to the area of the South side. Members of the grand march are strongly denouncing the rascals, with burning hatred and wrath toward the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u puppet ring.

Members Still Try To Go South

SK1508052291 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0454 GMT 15 Aug 91

[By Choe Chin-kun in Panmunjon]

[Text] The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet ring persistently and maliciously prevent Mt. Paektu-Mt. Halla grand march for national reunification from going over to the South.

Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung, who are nation-saving and ironed-willed delegates of the National Council of University Student Representatives, and all members of the grand march earnestly hope that the road leading to Seoul will be opened.

In addition, our side of the Military Armistice Commission urges that the U.S. forces side allow the members of the grand march to go over to the South side's area in Panmunjom. The U.S. forces side and the South side, however, are still preventing them from going over to the South side. Such a vile obstructive maneuver of the rascals further stirs indignation and wrath.

Marchers Vow To Continue 'at Any Cost'

SK1508083591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0803 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Panmunjom August 15 (KCNA)—The Mt. Paektu-Mt. Halla grand march squad for the promotion of national reunification which has made full preparations for the southward march turned out on the ground in front of the Panmun House in Panmunjom at 08:00 [2300 GMT 14 August] this morning following the struggle on the 13th to participate in the second pan-national rally and grand reunification festival of youth and students which will soon be held in Seoul.

Delegates of Chondaehyop [National Council of University Student Representatives] Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung came out together with it.

Present there were reporters.

Following the 13th, repeated requests have been made through an appropriate channel to the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities for the permission of passage through Panmunjom of the march squad and guarantee of its safety to continue its march to Mt. Halla through Seoul.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities, however, are now persistently blocking the southward march of the squad through Panmunjom without any reason or ground.

Enraged at this antinational, antireunification act, the members of the march squad and delegates Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung are strongly demanding that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities allow their passage through Panmunjom and guarantee their personal safety.

They are keeping up the struggle with a firm determination to continue at any cost the march to Seoul where the second pan-national rally and the grand reunification festival of youth and students will soon be held, no matter what difficulties may lie in their way.

Reunification Marchers Hold Torchlight Parade

SK1508090091 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0813 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Kaesong August 14 (KCNA)—The Mt. Paektu-Mt. Halla grand reunification march squad held a torchlight procession of youth and students for the promotion of national reunification and the release of Yim Su-kyong and other detained students in Kaesong on August 14.

It was participated in by Yo Yon-ku, vice-chairperson of the North side's headquarters of the Pan-National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (PNACR), North side's members of the Mt. Paektu-Mt. Halla grand reunification march squad, Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung, delegates of the South Korean National Council of Student Representatives (Chondaehyop), delegates of Koreans overseas and youth and students in the city.

Yi Chan, vice-chairman of the Korean Students Committee, in his speech called for putting a period to the era of division by carrying out the pledge to achieve reunification made atop Mt. Paektu and dynamically march toward the place of reunification festival where the brothers and sisters in the South are waiting along the road opened by fellow student Yim Su-kyong, the "flower of reunification," as reunification vanguards hastening the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

The participants vigorously marched through the streets, chanting the slogans "let the youth and students in the North and South be the standard-bearer of national reunification!" and "immediately release Yim Su-kyong, the 'flower of reunification,' and Rev. Mun Ik-hwan!".

Documents on Reunification Adopted at Rally

SK1508084691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0825 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Panmunjom August 15 (KCNA)—Documents were adopted at the Panmunjom meeting of the pan-national rally which was held here today.

A joint resolution of the Panmunjom meeting of the second pan-national rally for peace and reunification of the country stressed the need to wage an active struggle to denuclearize the Korean peninsula and reach a nation-wide agreement on the way of national reunification and strengthen the struggle to arrange the venue of an independent nongovernmental dialogue and achieve great national unity.

The letter to the authorities of the North and the South contended that a political consultative conference for national reunification in which the authorities of both sides and representatives of all the political parties and public organisations would participate must be convened at an early date to confirm the way of national reunification common to the nation.

The letter to the U.S. President said that if the United States improves the DPRK-U.S. relations, it will, no doubt, be helpful both to peace and security on the Korean peninsula and in northeast Asia and be consistent with the interest of the United States.

The letter to the U.N. secretary-general expressed the hope that he would exercise his official power so that the United Nations may make a positive contribution to a peaceful solution of the Korean question.

An appeal to the compatriots at home and abroad and a special resolution urging the release of Mun Ik-hwan, Yim Su-kyong and other visitors to the North were adopted at the meeting.

Report on Panmunjom Rally for Reunification

SK1508085491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0831 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Panmunjom August 15 (KCNA)—A Panmunjom meeting of the second pan-national rally [PNR] for peace and reunification of the country is under way at the Tongil House.

The PNR held on the occasion of the anniversary of August 15 Korean liberation this year following last year is a nation-wide grand reunification assembly arranged by the joint struggle of broad pro-reunification patriotic forces in the North, South and overseas with a firm determination to achieve national reunification without fail in a few years to come.

The delegates of the North and the South and Koreans overseas barred from sitting together in Seoul by the obstructive moves of the splittists within and without, the rally had to be opened in Panmunjom, Seoul and Tokyo as regional meetings.

These regional meetings will discuss the same agenda and joint documents according to the same program, though.

The Panmunjom meeting is participated in by Yun Ki-pok, chairman, and Yo Yon-ku, Chon Kum-chol and

Choe Hyon-tok, vice-chairmen, of the North side's headquarters of the Pan-National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (PNACR), Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung, delegates of the South Korean National Council of Student Representatives, delegates of Koreans overseas.

Yun Ki-pok delivered a keynote report at the rally.

Messages of greetings and congratulatory messages to the rally from different parts of the country and abroad were introduced.

The meeting continues.

South 'Patriotic Forces' vs. 'Splittists' Viewed

SK1508100691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0846 GMT 15 Aug 91

["Ardent Desire for Reunification and Outrageous Sword-Brandishing"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang August 15 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comments on the confrontation between the patriotic, democratic forces for reunification and the antireunification splittist forces daily growing acute in South Korea.

Recalling that the Coalition for National Democratic Movement (Chonminnyon) and the National Council of Student Representatives (Chondaehyop) of South Korea and other patriotic pro-reunification forces are vigorously fighting every day for a successful festival of reunification including the pan-national rally [PNR], the news analyst says:

The daring and patriotic advance of fellow countrymen in the South towards the venue of the reunification festival in defiance of the South Korean authorities' "total blockade" vividly shows how strong and fervent their desire and will are to bring the August 15 pan-national rally and the grand reunification festival of students to a success at any cost and thus accelerate the reunification in the '90s.

The struggle of the South Korean students and people for a successful PNR is a token of their unshakable confidence and will to get the U.S. imperialists withdrawn from South Korea and achieve the reunification of the country with the concerted efforts of the entire nation and a patriotic, great deed deserving praise by the 70 million fellow countrymen.

No Tae-u, however, is harshly cracking down upon the pro-reunification, democratic forces, branding the reunification festival as "illegal".

Such frantic suppression by the puppets is a desperate effort to dampen popular sentiments for reunification. It is an intolerable challenge to the desire of the entire nation for reunification and an unpardonable antinational, antireunification crime.

If the puppets resort to their vicious antireunification splittist moves, going against the people's desire for reunification, they will face a stern judgement by history and people as the enemy of the nation, the enemy of reunification.

Pan-National Rally Being Held in 3 Places

SK1508013991 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0055 GMT 15 Aug 91

[By Pak Chae-ho in Panmunjom]

[Text] Amid great expectations and concerns of 70 million fellow countrymen and the world's peace-loving people, the 2d pan-national rally for the peace and reunification of the fatherland is now being grandly held at Tongilgak in Panmunjom.

Owing to vile and malicious obstructive maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets, the 2d pan-national rally is forced to be separately held in Panmunjom, Seoul, and Tokyo at the same time.

The pan-national rally will be another important occasion manifesting our people's iron-willed faith and their burning spirit which is anxious to realize without fail national reunification in 1995.

Pan-National Rally at Panmunjom 15 Aug Reviewed

SK1508123291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0949 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Panmunjom August 15 (KCNA)—A Panmunjom meeting of the second pan-national rally [PNR] for peace and reunification of the country was held today at the Tongil House.

The PNR held on the occasion of the anniversary of August 15 Korean liberation this year following last year is a nation-wide grand reunification assembly arranged by the joint struggle of broad pro-reunification patriotic forces in the North, South and overseas with a firm determination to achieve national reunification without fail in a few years to come.

As the delegates of the North and the South and Koreans overseas barred from sitting together in Seoul by the obstructive moves of the splittists within and without, the rally had to be opened in Panmunjom, Seoul and Tokyo as regional meetings.

These regional meetings will discuss the same agenda and joint documents according to the same program.

The Panmunjom meeting is participated in by Yun Ki-pok, chairman, and Yo Yon-ku, Chon Kum-chol and Choe Hyon-tok, vice-chairmen, of the North side's headquarters of the Pan-National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (PNACR), Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung, delegates of the South Korean National Council of Student Representatives, and delegates of Koreans overseas.

Yun Ki-pok delivered a keynote report at the rally.

Messages of greetings and congratulatory messages to the rally from different parts of the country and abroad were introduced.

The meeting adopted a letter to the authorities in the North and the South, a letter to the U.S. President, a letter to the U.N. secretary general, an appeal to Koreans at home and abroad and a special resolution urging for the release of Mun Ik-hwan and Yim Su-kyong and other visitors to the North.

Note to President Bush Adopted at Rally

SK1508110691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0932 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Panmunjom August 15 (KCNA)—A letter to U.S. President Bush urging the United States to change its policy towards the Korean peninsula was adopted at the 2nd pan-national rally for peace and reunification of the country held here today.

After the Persian Gulf war, the letter notes, the United States is pursuing a policy of confrontation by strength on the Korean peninsula, as a part of its strategy to build up a "new order" orchestrated by it in northeast Asia, thus rendering the situation more strained.

It is as clear as noonday that if a war broke out in the Korean peninsula, the United States itself would not be able to evade losses and moral distress and the war would gravely threaten peace and security in northeast Asia and the rest of the world, it says, and goes on:

The United States should deeply ponder over this.

We consider it is high time the United States dropped its hegemonistic policy of the old age contrary to the idea of peace on the Korean peninsula.

The United States must not instigate the South Korean authorities to "unification by absorption" which may lead to confrontation and conflict, but fulfill its due obligation in converting the structure of military confrontation of the cold war time built on the Korean peninsula into a peaceful structure.

For the present, it must respond to the replacement of the Korean Armistice Agreement into a peace agreement without delay and withdraw its forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea, too, so that the Korean peninsula may be turned into a nuclear-free, peace zone.

If the United States improved its relations with the DPRK, it would, no doubt, not only be good for peace and security on the Korean peninsula and northeast Asia, but also conform to its own state interests.

We expect that you will look straight at the will and demand of the Korean nation who want detente and peace and take a decisive step for a switchover in its Korean policy of the old era.

Joint Resolution Adopted at Rally

SK1508112591 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0944 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 15 (KCNA)—A joint resolution was adopted at the second pan-national rally (PNR) for peace and reunification of the country which was held at Panmunjom today.

Though the '91 pan-national rally is held separately at Panmunjom, in Seoul and Tokyo owing to the obstructive moves of antireunification splittist forces, it discussed one question of peace and reunification of the country and makes public the following resolution on reunification in one voice carrying the same desire and will:

Firstly, we will fight more vigorously to make 1995, the year in which the 50th anniversary of the country's liberation and the 50th anniversary of national division fall, the first year of reunification.

Secondly, we will resolutely fight to remove the danger of war heavily hanging over the head of the nation.

Thirdly, we will wage an active struggle to denuclearise the Korean peninsula.

Fourthly, we will actively strive to reach a national agreement on the way of national rdunification.

Fifthly, we will make all efforts to arrange the table of an independent non governmental dialogue.

Sixthly, we will further intensify the struggle to achieve great national unity.

Seventhly, we will further expand and strengthen the pan-national alliance for the country's reunification.

Eighthly, we will energetically fight to check and frustrate the moves of the anti-reunification forces for a permanent division of the nation.

We will actively wage a joint struggle of various forms to isolate and weaken the antireunification forces blocking the country's reunification and smash the splittist forces' attempt to perpetuate national division, declares the joint resolution.

Rally Resolution on North Visitors

SK1508113591 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1000 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Panmunjom August 15 (KCNA)—The Panmunjom meeting of the second pan-national rally (PNR) for the peace and reunification of the country which was held today adopted a special resolution urging the release of Mun Ik-hwan, Yim Su-kyong and other visitors to the North.

Noting that the Pyongyang visit of the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and student Yim Su-kyong and the patriotic activities of the imprisoned pro-reunification democratic figures are proud deeds that should be prominently recorded in the history of the national reunification movement and be loved and praised by the nation, the resolution says:

Strongly demanding that the South Korean authorities unconditionally release the imprisoned visitors to the North and all the pro-reunification, democratic figures, abolish the "National Security Law", the antireunification evil law, and stop at once the brutal suppression of the pro-reunification, democratic forces, we evince the determination to struggle for the release of the visitors to the North as follows:

Firstly, the period from August 15 to December 31 shall be set as a "period of struggle for the release of Mun Ik-hwan, Yim Su-kyong and other visitors to the North and pro-reunification, democratic figures" and a joint struggle waged in the North, South and overseas.

Secondly, a 10 million signature campaign for the release of the visitors to the North and pro-reunification, democratic figures shall be vigorously waged in the North, South and overseas and this campaign expanded and developed till the visitors to the North and pro-reunification, democratic figures have been released.

Thirdly, proper steps shall be taken to extensively hold the international solidarity campaign for the release of the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, coed Yim Su-kyong and pro-reunification, democratic figures.

Appeal to Koreans Adopted at Rally

SK1508111891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1007 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Panmunjom August 15 (KCNA)—An appeal to Koreans at home and abroad was adopted at the second pan-national rally [PNR] for peace and reunification of the country which was held here today.

Though the PNR was opened separately in Panmunjom, Seoul and Tokyo owing to the obstructive moves of the splittist forces, it was a historic gathering which demonstrated at home and abroad the will and spirit of the entire fellow countrymen dynamically advancing toward the reunification in the '90s, the appeal says.

It calls upon all the peaceloving compatriots at home and abroad to turn out to check and frustrate the new war, nuclear war policy of the United States and the South Korean authorities.

It continues:

Let us struggle to have a North-South nonaggression declaration adopted, realise phased disarmament, get a peace agreement signed between Korea and the United States and the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons taken out of South Korea for a durable peace on the Korean peninsula!

Let all Koreans in the North, the South and overseas actively struggle to see a joint declaration on converting the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone made public by the authorities in the North and the South!

Calling upon all Koreans in the North, the South and overseas to launch a joint struggle to arrange a negotiating table to define the nation's common way for the reunification of the country, the appeal continues:

A most reasonable and realistic way for national reunification is to found a confederal state on the basis of the three principles of national reunification—independence, peace and great national unity. "Unification by absorption" and "unification of systems" are a doctrine for permanent division and a doctrine for war and confrontation.

Let us vigorously fight to establish a confederal state, independent, neutral and peaceloving, with neither side of the North and the South conquering the other nor being conquered by the other nor imposing the idea and system upon the other!

Let all Koreans at home and abroad firmly unite under the banner of national reunification, regardless of ideology and political view, religious belief and position and the past records!

Let us greatly contribute to the sacred cause of national reunification, those with strength giving strength, those with knowledge contributing knowledge and those with money offering money, and strengthen nationwide solidarity in the movement for reunification!

Letter to UN Head Adopted at Rally

SK1508111291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0938 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 15 (KCNA)—The United Nations should exercise due influence for the withdrawal of the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea and conversion of the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone, says the letter to the U.N. secretary general adopted at the second pan national rally for peace and reunification of the country held in Panmunjom today.

Noting that the Korean peninsula is today the place where the danger of war is greatest in the world after the Persian Gulf war and it is the most unstable region where there is not mere possibility of a new war, a nuclear war, but its practical danger, the letter goes on:

We urge the United Nations which is an authoritative international organization for the peace and security of the world and is directly related with the guarantee of peace in Korea to pay due attention to the present situation on the Korean peninsula.

The United Nations should, above all, direct due attention to an early replacement of the Armistice Agreement concluded 38 years ago by a peace agreement.

The present situation under which the North and South of Korea are to be admitted to the United Nations raises it as an urgent problem whose solution brooks no further delay to replace the Korean Armistice Agreement by a peace agreement.

To get the U.S. forces withdrawn from South Korea is natural for the United Nations in the sense of breaking with the unsavoury past concerning the Korean peninsula and implementing its resolution and in view of its charter which provides for guaranteeing the sovereignty and security of each country.

We consider that the United Nations should take at an early date steps to replace the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement and get U.S. forces withdrawn from South Korea.

If the United Nations practically take steps to replace the Armistic Agreement with a peace agreement and have the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons withdrawn from South Korea, it will contribute to the cause of peace on the Korean peninsula and its peaceful reunification and greatly boost its authority.

The letter expresses the expectation that the U.N. secretary general will exercise his authority so that the United Nations may make a positive contribution to the peaceful settlement of the Korean issue.

S-N Students Adopt Resolution at Panmunjom

SK1508115791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0954 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Panmunjom August 15 (KCNA)—Reunification talks of students in the North, the South and overseas for an agreement on the method of reunification, peace of the country and great national unity was held at the Tongil House in Panmunjom today.

Participating in the talks were delegates of the Korean Students Committee (KSC), delegates of the South Korean National Council of Student Representatives (Chondaehyop) Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung and delegates of overseas students.

Head of the KSC delegation Yi Kum-chol, delegate of Chondaehyop Song Yong-sung and head of the delegation of Korean Students in Japan U Ho-il on behalf of the overseas students took the floor who were followed by other speakers.

The meeting adopted a joint resolution and an agreement.

Referring to the way of national reunification, the joint resolution stresses that the fastest and most smooth way of achieving reunification is reunification through confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments.

Pointing to the issue of guaranteeing peace in Korea, the resolution holds that in order to remove the military confrontation between the North and the South and prevent a war the Armistice Agreement should be replaced by a peace agreement and a North-South nonaggression declaration be adopted without delay.

Touching upon the issue of achieving great national unity, the resolution says that in order to achieve great national unity, independent civilian dialogue and contacts should be realized and ensured between the North, the South and overseas.

Referring to the issue of building a solidarity organization of students in the North, the South and overseas, the resolution stresses that "Pan-National Alliance of Korean Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification" (Pomchonghaknyon), a centripetal organization of the unity of youth and students in the North, the South and overseas, will be formed at an early date.

South Student Proposes Joint Talks in Panmunjom

SK1508115091 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1105 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Panmunjom August 15 (KCNA)—The Mt. Paektu-Mt. Halla grand march squad for the promotion of national reunification made its third appearance to the ground in front of the Panmun House at Panmunjom with a determination to continue its march to the South and repeatedly demanded the United States and the South Korean authorities allow its passage through Panmunjom.

Under a condition that the August 15 grand festial of students in the North, the South and overseas failed to be held in Seoul owing to the obstructions of the United States and the South Korean authorities, delegate of the South Korean National Council of Student Representatives Song Yong-sung proposed to hold a talk in Panmunjom, in which students in the North, the South and overseas will participate.

Hailing and supporting Song Yong-sung's proposal, Choe Hyon-tok, chairman of the Korean Students Committee [KSC], made public a joint statement of the North side's headquarters of the Pan-National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (PNACR) and the Korean Students Committee.

In the joint statevent, the North side's headquarters of the PNACR and the KSC bitterly denounce, in the name of the 70 million fellow countrymen, the United States and the No Tae-u clique of traitors for blocking their way to the place of the second pan-national rally and the August 15 grand reunification festival of students in the North, the South and overseas, going against the unanimous desire and aspiration of the entire fellow countrymen.

The pan-national rally and the grand festival for reunification are a theatre of nationwide negotiation for reunification the first in its kind in history, at which all patriotic figures of all circles in the North, the South and overseas who want reunification are to sit together to seek practical measures for achieving national unity and achieving national reunification in a few years to come, transcending differences in ideology and idea, political view and religious belief, the statement says, and continues:

The '91 pan-national rally and the grand reunification festival of students had have to be opened separately in Panmunjom, Seoul and Tokyo, failing to be held in Seoul. It is entirely because of the heinous obstructionist moves of the South Korean authorities who are trying to prolong their remaining days by the permanent division of the country, clean indifferent to reunification.

Though the August 15 grand festival for reunification is held today separately in the North, the South and overseas, all Koreans will meet tomorrow with each other in the columns of a nationwide grand march for reunification and hold a grand festival celebrating reunification in Seoul without fail.

Forum on Peace, Reunification Question Held

SK1408091291 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1100 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] A grand political forum on peace and reunification in the fatherland was held at the Grand People's Study Hall on the morning of 12 August at a time when the great Paektu-Halla march for the promotion of national reunification is vigorously under way amid great expectation and attention of all fellow countrymen.

Placed with due respect on the front wall of the meeting hall was a portrait of Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people. Hung on the wall of the meeting place were slogans that read "Long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song!" and "Long live the glorious WPK [Workers Party of Korea]!"

Also posted in the hall were slogans-bearing panels that read "Let us make the nineties shine as the decade of reunification" and "Let us hasten reunification of the country by successfully holding the pan-national rally on 9-10 August."

Attending the forum were Yo Yon-ku and Paek Nam-chun, vice chairmen of the North side's headquarters of the Pan-National Alliance for National Reunification [Pomminnyon]; Choe Hyon-tok, chairman of the Korean Students Committee; members of the Central Committee of the North side's headquarters of the Pomminnyon; the North side's delegates to the '91 pan-national rally and the great 15 August festival of the youth and students in the North and South and abroad for national reunification.

Also attending the forum were youth and student representatives of the overseas compatriots.

Kim Ku-sik, professor and Ph.D. holder who is also member of the Central Committee of the North side's headquarters of the Pomminnyon, made a speech first at the forum under heading "Confirming the way of reunification common to the nation is the cardinal question arising in hastening the cause of reunification."

[Begin Kim Ku-sik recording] We are now attending a great national festival of historical proportions which is expected to open a new phase in our effort to hasten national reunification in order to reflect the unanimous desire of all the fellow countrymen determined to turn the nineties into a decade of reunification.

Is there a question that we are expected to solve at the earliest possible date in order to expedite the realization of national reunification before the end of the nineties amid the awesome stream of history?

Confirming the way of reunification common to the nation can be said to be it.

In his New Year's address, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: At present, one important question arising in hastening national reunification is to finalize the way of national reunification.

Now, why is it so urgent and important to confirm the way of reunification common to the nation in hastening the cause of reunification? I am going to examine this question in three aspects.

First, it is urgent and important because it is not a distant event, but an immediate reality that stands right in front of our eyes.

In his classic work published last 1 August, entitled "Let Us Achieve the Great Unity of Our People," the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the sun of the nation, said that a movement, whatever kind it may be, can become successful only when the driving force behind it is reinforced and its role is enhanced, stating that the revolution is the most important truth and a philosophy that has become our faith in the process of a protracted revolutionary struggle.

A colossal reunification force is in the offing in our reunification movement. A broad range of the masses, including workers, peasants, youth, and students, are now involved in the reunification movement, along with people from all walks of life, such as politicians, businessmen, men of cultural affairs, scholars, and religious figures.

The reunification movement is now creating powerful waves in the North and South and abroad, wherever the Korean people live. It is being expanded nationwide.

Reunification organizations in South Korea such as the National Democratic Alliance of Korea [Chonminnyon] and the National Council of University Student Representatives [Chondaehyop] have consolidated and developed themselves as the leaders of the movement, while reinforcing their organizational foundation and clarifying their ideological position. While firmly keeping their struggle lines in place, never yielding to the enemy's fascist suppression, they have vigorously continued the reunification movement in the fighting spirit of perseverance.

The formation of Pomminnyon last year was a great event of historical proportion that has lined up all the reunification forces in the North and South and abroad behind a single united body.

A brief examination of the reunification forces in the preparatory stage convinces us that we can make the year 1995 the year during which we have achieved reunification if all the reunification forces in the North and South and abroad are united in strength and continue movement more actively.

So, it is a pressing question to finalize the way of reunification at the earliest possible date as reunification seems so close at hand.

Next, I am going to speak of the second reason why the finalization of the way of reunification is so urgent. It is because the finalized way of reunification will sharpen in the hearts of all the fellow countrymen the future image of their reunified fatherland, goad them into staging a joint struggle with clear objectives in mind, and, at the same time, make them conduct dialogue for reunification without event.

The third reason why it is urgent to finalize the way of reunification is because a wide assortment of proposals for reunification, including one for the founding of a confederation, have been put forward by the North and South and abroad and voices calling for discussing and agreeing on them at the earliest possible date are rising.

Assuming reunification of the country by way of founding a confederation based on one nation and one state, two systems and two governments as the cardinal principle of national reunification, we have put forward a proposal for founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo [DCRK], the embodiment of the former.

Of course, we consider the formula of reunification through confederacy to be a most reasonable and realistic proposal but have neither an intention to force it upon the South side nor insist on it as the only way for the settlement of the question of national reunification.

If any other proposal is favorable to reunification and can serve as the basis for dialogue, we are willing to discuss it without reserve, whoever may have put it forward.

Our next question is what must be done to finalize the way of reunification. The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song advanced a new epochal proposal to convene a political consultative conference for national reunification in order to reach a nationwide agreement on the way of national reunification in his New Year's address.

The proposal for political consultative conference for national reunification is the most just, realistic form of negotiation to independently achieve national reunification through the united strength of the North and South, proceeding as it does from the chuche-based outlook on the nation for defending the independence of the nation through the unity of the whole nation, regarding independence as the life and soul of the nation. [end recording]

Then he stressed that if the South Korean authorities are genuinely interested in reunifying the country, they should respond to our proposal for a political consultative conference for national reunification aimed at confirming the way of reunification common to the nation at the earliest possible date, setting aside their prejudice and stubbornness.

Next, Son Chong-chol, professor and Ph.D. holder and member of the Central Committee of the North side's headquarters of the Pomminnyon, joined the debate with a speech entitled "The Proposal for the Founding of the DCRK Is the Most Just Way of Settling the Reunification Question."

He said: Today, the movement for national reunification faces a pressing task to uplift the reunification movement onto a decisive stage by finalizing the way of reunification common to the nation as soon as possible in order to advance along a straightforward path toward the one and only goal by pooling the strength of the entire nation.

After noting that the proposal for founding the DCRK is the just and fair way of reunification constituting the foundation on which to build national consensus as the way of reunifying the country through the confederacy based on one nation and one state, two systems and two governments, he continued:

[Begin Son recording] The justness of the proposal for reunification through the founding of the DCRK lies, first, in the fact that it is the most realistic and just proposal that enables the North and South to achieve reunification despite the two different systems existing in the two sides.

The proposal for reunification through the founding of the DCRK proceeds from the position which places national [word indistinct] and common national interest ahead of everything, that is to say a stand to build a national state in the first place and two different systems and two governments can coexist within the framework of the former.

This is the principled stand which must be adhered to in settling the reunification question in our country.

The only way to achieve national reconciliation and unity under the conditions in which there are two different ideologies and systems in the North and South of our country is realize national reunification by way of founding a confederal system, leaving the two systems and two governments existing in the North and South intact and instead build a reunified state of the kindred people, that is to say through a confederal system.

The proposal for the founding of the DCRK is the most realistic and just proposal for founding a confederal system to achieve national reunification by way of establishing a sovereign state based on a single national foundation called the Korean people and within the framework of that state let two governments in the North and South based on two different social systems exist, allowing the two sides to adopt autonomous government systems.

It is crystal clear, from the standpoint of the interrelation between national homogeneity and the heterogeneity coming from the systematic differences, that this plan of founding a state through confederacy is a just plan to successfully resolve the issue of reunification under the condition where the two sides have different systems. It is because the blood of Korea circulates and the soul of Korea lives in the bodies of our nation that although the people in the North and the South have had to live separate lives for a long time due to the wall of division, whenever they meet, they feel closeness right away as same brethren and embrace each other before parting. Thus, although the country is divided, the commonality and homogeneity as one nation remain the same as ever. This proves that despite the differences in ideology and system within the nation, they can realize reunification as one nation.

Second, the justness of the proposal for founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo [DCRK] lies in the fact that it is the patriotic and nation-loving way of reunification that enables the reunification of our country in a peaceful way. The purpose of our people to bring an end to the division of the country and achieve fatherland reunification is to achieve unified development of the nation and the common prosperity of the nation. From this purpose, the reunification of our country must be achieved by peaceful means in conformity with the demands of the entire nation.

Despite the fact that neither side is willing to give up its system, no attempt should be made to resolve the issue of the country's reunification by resorting to war. For our people, the reunification of the country is more precious than any other thing, but our people do not want war which brings our nation incalculable sacrifice and catastrophic disaster, nor can they tolerate it. The reunification of our country should be realized by means of neither side conquering the other side, that is, by peaceful means, and the most reasonable way to achieve this is the plan of founding a confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems, and two governments.

Third, the justness of the proposal for founding the DCRK is that it is the most just, fair, and reasonable way of reunification acceptable to everyone. The proposal for founding the DCRK provides reasonably and fairly for everything in the common interest of the nation and in the interest of both the North and the South and the people of all walks of life. This proposal provides for a democratic republic in the form of a confederacy as the form of the unified state. In this way it becomes possible to realize a political system for all the people of different ideology, political views, and religions to consent and accept.

We are ready to agree, to achieve national agreement on reunification more smoothly, on the issue of gradually completing the reunification through a confederacy. The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song newly proclaimed his willingness to agree on the issue of gradually completing the reunification through a confederacy—to achieve national consensus on the proposal for founding the DCRK more smoothly—where the regional autonomous governments of the confederal republic are provisionally given greater authority and the function of the central government is increased more and more later. By so proclaiming, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song put forward a proposal to convene a political consultative conference for national reunification at an early date to achieve national consensus on the way of reunification. This new proposal is a truly broadminded and flexible proposal fully taking into consideration all the different views as to the way of fatherland reunification.

Truly, the proposal for founding the DCRK is an original and reasonable way and program of national reunification which elucidates the most correct way of solving the reunification issue independently and peacefully under the prevailing conditions of our country through the united strength of the entire nation in conformity with the common demands and interest of the nation. [end recording]

Next, Dr. Choe Kum-chun, head of a department of the Kim Il-song University, spoke on the subject of "Realizing the Great National Unity Is a Basic Guarantee for the Realization of Fatherland Reunification." He noted that the great national unity is the most valuable idea for the solution to the national problem put forth by the great leader and that it is one of the principles of reunification common to the nation proclaimed in the 4 July North-South Joint Statement, and continued:

[Begin Choe recording] Our nation has a valuable tradition and brilliant history in which it achieved the reunification of the country and pioneered the destiny of the nation with the united strength of the nation. The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song formed the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland, a national anti-Japanese united front, during the anti-Japanese national struggle era, and firmly rallying all the patriotic forces desiring the independence and sovereignty of the country under the anti-Japanese banner, he achieved the historic cause of the liberation of the fatherland. By so doing, he provided a shining tradition of great national unity.

After the liberation, when the splittist forces within and without fabricated the separate election ruinous to the country and schemed for perpetual national division, the delegates of the patriotic political parties and public organizations of the North and the South held the

North-South joint meeting in April and waged a struggle to bring a breakthrough in the crisis with the united strength of the nation.

The struggle to realize the cause of reunification through the united strength of the nation has been developing continuously in recent years. In particular, the historic pan-national meeting was held last year, the Pan-National Alliance for Reunification [Pomminnyon] was inaugurated, and the figures from political and social circles, scholars, religionists, sports people, art people, and compatriots from all other walks of life met and conversed each other in Pyongyang, Seoul, and overseas, highly demonstrating their will for national unity. This great trend to realize national unity clearly shows that the confrontation policy of the splittist forces within and without which encouraged distrust and confrontation within the nation is thoroughly frustrated and that the noble ideal of great national unity is triumphant. If we actively foster this noble tradition and valuable experience of national unity, we will certainly realize great national unity.

There are still many obstacles and difficulties in the way of fatherland reunification, but the prospects for fatherland reunification are very good. When all the Korean nation in the North, the South, and overseas vigorously launch themselves into the struggle to realize fatherland reunification firmly uniting under the banner of great national unity, the foremost long-cherished desire of our nation will be certainly realized, and the sacred work of realizing fatherland reunification will be achieved without fail. [applause] [end recording]

Next, Kim Chae-yon, director of a department of the Korean Social Democratic Party, spoke on the subject of "Let Us the Entire Nation Unite Ourselves Under the Banner of Pomminnyon and Accelerate the Reunification of the Fatherland."

[Begin Kim recording] Today, the second round of the pan-national meeting is to be successfully held, repelling the vile obstructive maneuvers of the splittist forces amid the entire nation's support and yearning for reunification. This is an event of special significance that will mark another chapter in the history of the reunification movement. Now when the blueprint of the plan for a confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems, and two governments is put forward and when the timetable for reunification in the nineties is fixed, which has led to the reunification movement at home and abroad, what will be the important task assigned to the nation? It is great national unity. I will speak on what will be the basic problem to achieve great national unity.

The basic key to great national unity at this point is the entire nation uniting itself under the banner of the Pomminnyon. The Pomminnyon is formed with the joint efforts of the patriotic bodies and organizations and patriotic figures from all walks of life in the North, the South, and overseas that aspire for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country. As for the nature of the Pomminnyon, its basic mission is to realize fatherland reunification based on the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity, and it is a patriotic organization for the reunification movement that speaks for the common will of the compatriots in the North, the South, and overseas.

Therefore, how one regards and treats Pomminnyon becomes a criterion to determine whether one supports or opposes national unity and whether one really desires fatherland reunification. From this, the Pomminnyon becomes the mother's body and the crystal of national unity. The reason for this is that Pomminnyon consists of all who desire reunification, as we all know. Pomminnyon is not an organization patronized by any authorities to oppose anyone. Pomminnyon is not an organization restricted to one particular region. It is a pan-national organization for the reunification movement which serves the interest of the entire nation, comprising all the patriotic reunification forces from all walks of life. Therefore, the mission and responsibility of Pomminnyon in realizing national unity and accelerating fatherland reunification become all the heavier.

Therefore, Pomminnyon is assigned the task of continuously expanding and strengthening its ranks among the compatriots, and actively developing various activities to expedite fatherland reunification. [end recording]

He called for a more vigorous development of the grand reunification march to make 1995 the year for realizing reunification by building up the Pomminnyon as much as possible and fostering the united strength of the patriotic reunification forces in every way.

Next, Dr. and Professor Pak Tong-kun, central member of the North side's headquarters of the Pomminnyon, spoke on the subject of "Let Us Force the U.S. Forces and Nuclear Weapons Out of South Korea and Make the Korean peninsula a Nuclear-Free, Peace Zone."

[Begin Pak recording] Forcing the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons out of South Korea and making the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free, peace zone is of particular importance in realizing peace and reunification of the fatherland today. As consistently stressed by all the fellow countrymen in the North, the South, and overseas and the many friends of ours in the world, forcing the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea and making the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free, peace zone is an urgent task which is of paramount significance in expediting peace and reunification of the country.

The government of the Republic, since the first day of its founding, has consistently and strongly demanded the withdrawal of the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea. In particular, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song proclaimed the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula on 10 October 1980 as one of the 10 policies of the DCRK to be founded in the future. In June 1980, he had the plan for turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone put forward officially. At the same time, the government of the

Republic officially proposed to the U.S. side to negotiate between Korea and the United States on the issue of a nuclear-free, peace zone on the Korean peninsula.

The DRPK Foreign Ministry last 31 July issued a statement proposing a new plan for a nuclear-free, peace zone which called for the North and the South jointly issuing a statement on denuclearizing the Korean peninsula and internationally acknowledging the denuclearization of our country with legal guarantee by the countries concerned. However, none of the proposals made by the government of the Republic for denuclearizing the Korean peninsula have been realized up to this time. On the contrary, the danger of nuclear war is increasing more and more.

Solomon, U.S. assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, testifying at the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee hearing on last 6 March, said that the United States cannot support the North Korea-proposed plan for denuclearizing the Korean peninsula.

To remove the ever-increasing danger of nuclear war, to ensure peace in the country, and to expedite fatherland reunification, we must force the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons out of South Korea and make the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free, peace zone. Our antinuclear peace movement is a pan-national movement to save the nation from the danger of national extinction and to defend the fatherland from turning into a wasteland. Therefore, our antinuclear peace movement should be joined by people of all classes, strata, and walks of life transcending the differences in ideology, political view, system, religion, and place of residence, and it should be developed as a pan-national struggle in its literal sense. [end recording]

He continued and stressed that our position and proposal for forcing the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons out of South Korea and turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone is just and that it will be certainly realized with the support of the entire nation and world's peace-loving people.

Next, Cho Sang-ho, central member of the North side's headquarters of the Pomminnyon, spoke on the subject of "The Adoption of a Nonaggression Declaration and the Realization of Disarmament Are an Urgent Tasks for Peace on the Korean peninsula."

He said that in our country where the political and military confrontation is acute at present, not only the withdrawal of U.S. forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea but also the realistic measures for peace such as the adoption of a nonaggression declaration and overall disarmament are urgently necessary. He then continued:

[Begin Cho recording] The South Korean authorities, maintaining a position that they would rather live separately if they cannot achieve reunification by defeating communism right away, are persistently engaged in a two Koreas plot. On the other hand they are attempting to demolish the North from within through exchanges while continuously seeking military adventurism building up arms. We can never tolerate the antinational act of the South Korean authorities running counter to peace and the peaceful reunification of the country. The South Korean authorities should awaken themselves from this logic of division and confrontation, accede to the adoption of a nonaggression declaration at an early date. While providing a basis for confidence-building by the adoption of a nonaggression declaration, they should realize disarmament without fail.

Our peace will only be genuine when reunification is realized allowing all the nation to live harmoniously together in our fatherland. Without it, peace is meaningless. Therefore, the adoption of a nonaggression declaration and disarmament to bring about peace as a precondition to realize reunification are an all the more urgent task which cannot be postponed any longer.

We should wage a daring pan-national struggle to bring about peace on the Korean peninsula. With high alertness, we should expose and condemn the splittists' maneuvers. A nonaggression declaration should be adopted between the North and the South, a peace agreement should be signed between Korea and the United States, the military strength of the North and the South should be drastically reduced, the nuclear weapons and foreign forces should be withdrawn from South Korea. [applause] [end recording]

Answers were given to the questions raised at the forum.

UN Development Program Agrees To Help North

*SK1508095591 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0839 GMT 15 Aug 91*

[Text] Pyongyang August 15 (KCNA)—An agreement was reached between the DPRK and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Pyongyang on August 14 on assistance in strengthening the central quality and weighing science institute.

According to the agreement, the UNDP will help the DPRK in modernization of national economic domains and building of the foundation of the national measurement and weighing control system.

Present there were officials concerned and Henning Karcher, resident representative of the UNDP in Korea.

An agreement was reached between the DPRK and the UNDP on the same day on assistance in the modernization of battery production.

Red Cross Message Asking South Press To Meet

*SK1408144691 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 14 Aug 91*

[Text] Yi Song-ho, acting chairman of the DPRK Red Cross Society Central Committee, has called on the chairman of the preparatory committee for the consultative conference of the heads of the press organizations in Asia and Oceania to deliver a letter to the chairman of the Federation of the South Korean National Press Labor Union. However, the South Korean side has refused to accept this letter. As a result, he cannot but send the letter to the chairman via radio.

The letter reads:

To Mr. Kwon Yong-kil, chairman of the Federation of the National Press Labor Union:

In honor of your and your organization's just activities for peace and reunification of the fatherland and for the fulfillment of the democratic press in the fatherland, I am sending you this letter. Under the International Press Union, the consultative conference with the participation of the heads of the press organizations in Asia and Oceania to be held in Pyongyang from 21 to 24 August. At the request of the International Press Union, I courteously invite you to this conference.

At this conference, a series of issues will be discussed. These include the issue of strengthening mutual cooperation among the press organizations in the Asia and Oceania region, of opening the secretariat of the International Press Union in the Asia and Oceania region, and of promoting mutual cooperation between member organizations and nonmember organizations of the International Press Union.

For the first time, the conference will be held in our country. In addition, this conference will be an important opportunity to strengthen the friendship and relations among journalists, while properly carrying out their duty in a struggle for the building of a peaceful and independent new Asia, thus highly raising their just pens.

If you can come to Pyongyang to participate in the Conference, I, availing myself of this opportunity, think that we can sincerely exchange our views concerning each other, including the issues of achieving national peace and reunification, thus sitting together at the table between journalists of the North and the South

We will provide you all conveniences needed for your participation in the conference. In addition, relevant organizations of our Republic will guarantee your personal security. Paying my respect to your just activities once again, I expect your affirmative response.

Kong Yong-chin, chairman of the preparatory committee for the consultative conference with the participation of the heads of the press organizations in Asia and Oceania.

14 August 1991.

Scholars Reject 'Philosophers' Meeting in Seoul

SK1408153991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1517 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 14 (KCNA)—Kim Chang-won, director of the Institute of Philosophy of the Academy of Social Sciences of the North side, sent a letter to Prof. So Kwang-hui of the philosophical course of Seoul National University who is chairman of the preparatory committee of the "Korean National Conference of Philosophers", concerning the invitation of philosophers of the North to the conference scheduled in the South.

The letter was handed over to the South side by a liaison official of our side at Panmunjom today.

In the letter Kim Chang-won said it is the desire of the philosophers of the North that the forthcoming conference of philosophers will be a conference conducive to the promotion of genuine reconciliation and unity of philosophers in the North, the South and overseas and the acceleration of the country's reunification, and hoped that the preparatory committee will reconsider some points.

He, first of all, proposed to name the conference "pan-national conference of philosophers". Because, he said, though you Mr. So Kwang-hui said in your reply letter dated August 5 that the word "Han (Korean) nation" means one nation, articles carried in publications of the South side hint that it reflects a specific "nomenclature". According to reports from South Korea, some scholars and professors have been listed by name as ones barred from participating in the conference, the letter noted, and proposed that philosophers who are truly concerned over the destiny of the country and the nation be allowed to participate in it without restriction and make public their isms and arguments, in view of the purport and aim of the conference.

The letter expressed the hope that the keynote report and publication of papers be left entirely to the North side in the discussion of the theme "chuche idea and change of the times."

Recalling that the South Korean authorities are now barring the delegates and observers of the northern half of the country from taking part in the pan-national rally and the grand reunification festival of students in Seoul, the letter says that it would be inconsistent with the desire of the nation for reunification for philosophers of the North to go to the Seoul conference, turning a blind eye to this. So it proposed to open the conference not on August 21 as scheduled, but in an appropriate time, depending on the relaxation of the atmosphere in the future.

'Yim Su-kyong Cup' Soccer Game Held in Kaesong

SK1408154991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1506 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] Kaesong August 14 (KCNA)—Mock "Yim Su-kyong cup" soccer finals of the August 15 grand reunification festival of students in the North, the South and overseas, took place at the Kaesong Youth Stadium today.

The soccer games were arranged in response to the ardent desire and aspiration of students in the North and the South to convey long the grand patriotic deed of Yim Su-kyong, a laudable daughter of the nation and the "flower of reunification", and to become vanguard fighters of the reunification movement following her.

The finals were scheduled to be held in Seoul by our team and team of South Korean students. But, the finals were not realised owing to the obstructionist moves of the South Korean authorities. As a consequence, mock finals were held.

The match was watched by Yo Yon-ku, vice-chairperson of the North side's headquarters of the pan-national alliance for the country's reunification, delegates of the North side to the '91 pan-national rally and the August 15 grand reunification festival of students in the North, the South and overseas, and people of all strata in the city.

Among the spectators were Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung, delegates of Chondaehyop [National Council of University Student Representatives] of South Korea, and delegates of overseas Koreans.

It was decided to divide the soccer team of the Korean students committee participating in the finals into two and name the teams "independent reunification" team and "peaceful reunification" team, representing the will of the fellow countrymen to achieve the reunification of the country in an independent and peaceful way.

In the second half, the match reached its acme with the participation of Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung, delegates of Chondaehyop, and overseas Korean students.

When the game drew 3:3, the soccer team of the Korean students committee was awarded the "Yim Su-kyong cup".

Then followed a tug of war, a national game.

U.S.-South Working-Level Talks Viewed

SK1508101291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0851 GMT 15 Aug 91

["Undisguised War Scheme Against North"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang August 15 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets reportedly shared the view at the U.S.-South Korea "working-level talks of senior defense officials" in Honolulu that if we the North refused to give up "nuclear development," they would not rule out the possibility of the use of arms.

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today says this meant that they made a secret promise to commit a surprise preemptive strike at the northern half of Korea under the pretext of fictitious "nuclear development" by making it a fait accompli.

The news analyst says:

This secret promise is a de facto declaration of war against the North.

Although the Honolulu "talks" were held outwardly under the signboard of "working-level talks," they were, as a matter of fact, a confab of criminal war between the master and his servant to further step up the preparations for another war against North.

Their outcry over the "possibility of the use of arms" is an open threat and blackmail to us and is an immovable proof that the U.S. imperialists set it as their immediate goal to overpower our Republic by strength, directing the sharp edge of the antisocialist moves against the DPRK at the moment.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are raising a hue and cry over our "nuclear problem" these days. This is a preposterous sophism invented by them to find a pretext of northward invasion with their fiction of "threat from the North" no more going down with anyone.

The U.S. imperialists announced deceptive "cutback" program and behind its scene keep the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons in South Korea and are further building up the combat strength of the U.S. and the puppet troops. They have even prepared legal and institutional mechanism to freely commandeer and use in South Korea everything necessary for U.S. combat actions in the "event of contingency".

What remains to be done by them is to start a full-dressed military action with our "nuclear development" as a pretext.

All the recent moves of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are for this purpose.

Mikhail Gorbachev Sends Greetings to Kim Il-song

SK1408153191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1524 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 14 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received a message of greetings today from Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, president of the Union of Soviet Socialist

Republics and general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, on the occasion of the 46th anniversary of the liberation of Korea.

Comrade Gorbachev in the message expressed the belief that now that great positive changes are taking place in the world the Soviet-Korean relations would continue to develop in the interests of the peoples of the two countries and of the cause of peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region.

Kim Il-song Sends Message to Mikhail Gorbachev

SK1408151891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1511 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 14 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, today sent a message of greetings to Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, president of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, on the occasion of the 46th anniversary of the liberation of Korea.

Comrade Kim Il-song says in the message:

Greeting the August 15, the Korean people believe that the Korean-Soviet relations of friendship forged through a long historical period will develop in conformity with the common desire of the two peoples.

I wish you success in your responsible work.

Soviet Visitor Conveys Gift for Kim Chong-il

SK1408111191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 14 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il was presented with a gift by the first vice-chairman of the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee on a visit to Korea.

First Vice-Chairman Vladimir Tolstikov handed the gift to an official concerned.

Conveying the gift, the first vice-chairman said that he had prepared the gift carrying his wishes that Comrade kim Chong-il will enjoy a long life and good health to wisely lead the Korean revolution and world revolution.

It is my ardent desire and honour to receive precious teachings from Comrade Kim Chong-il, he stressed.

Soviet Envoy Hosts Reception on Liberation Day

SK1508093291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0829 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 15 (KCNA)—Soviet Ambassador to Korea Aleksandr Kapto arranged a friendly gethering at his embassy on August 14 on the occasion of the 46th anniversary of Korean liberation.

Present on invitation were Kang Sok-chu, first vice-minister of foreign affairs, Kim Kwang-chin, vice-minister of People's Armed Forces, O Mun-han, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, O Kil-pang, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean-Soviet Friendship Society, and other officials concerned.

Speeches were made there.

Soviet Envoy, Guests Attend Commemorative Show

SK1508095191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0837 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 15 (KCNA)—A film show was held at the Chollima House of Culture Wednesday [14 August] on the occasion of the 46th anniversary of the liberation of Korea.

Invited there were Soviet Ambassador to Korea Aleksandr Kapto and his embassy officials and Soviet guests staying in Korea.

Yi Chong-yul, minister of public health and chairman of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Korean-Soviet Friendship Society, O Mun-han, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, other officials concerned and working people in the city were present.

The participants appreciated the Soviet film "Two Grandmothers".

Kim Il-song Sends Gift Via Delegate to Castro

SK1508082491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0757 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Havana August 13 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, sent a gift to Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Council of State and president of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, on his 65th birthday.

A ceremony to convey the gift and award the title of honorary doctorate of our country to Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz was held at the DPRK Embassy in Cuba on August 12.

Present there were Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, senior officials of the Cuban party and state and officials concerned.

Head of the DPRK party and Government delegation on a visit to Cuba Kang Hui-won, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the

Workers' Party of Korea and vice-premier of the Administration Council, conveyed the gift to Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz.

Then the diploma of honorary doctorate of the DPRK in socio-political science and medal were awarded to Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz.

And "Course of Eliminating Shortcomings in Cuba", a collection of speeches of Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, which was brought out by the Workers' Party of Korea Publishing House was also conveyed to him.

Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz made a speech.

He said he was deeply moved by the fact that President Kim Il-song paid deep attention to his birthday and sent a gift to him and this is a strong inspiration to him as well as the Cuban people.

Cuba has lots of problems to be solved as she is building socialism under most difficult conditions created by the imperialists' blockade, he said.

Noting that Korea has a longer history of struggle than Cuba and rich experience in socialist construction, he said he could see at first hand the achievements gained by the Korean people in all domains during his visit to the DPRK.

He expressed the conviction that the friendly and cooperative relations between Cuba and Korea will grow stronger and develop and sincerely wished President Kim Il-song good health and long life.

Fidel Castro Receives Delegates in Havana

SK1508084391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0810 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Havana August 13 (KCNA)—Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, president of the Council of State and president of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, met the visiting DPRK party and Government delegation led by Kang Hui-won, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-premier of the Administration Council.

The head of the delegation conveyed exceptional greetings of Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il to Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz congratulating him on his 65th birthday.

Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz expressed deep thanks for this and asked the head of the delegation to forward his wholehearted thanks and greetings to Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il.

He said the "Havana-Pyongyang Friendship Fountain" built very wonderfully and beautifully as a gift of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is astir with a large number of visitors every day.

Fidel Castro Addresses DPRK-Hosted Reception

SK1508090891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0818 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Havana August 13 (KCNA)—A reception was given at the embassy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in Cuba on August 12 on the 65th birthday of Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Council of State and president of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba.

Invited to the reception was Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz.

Also present on invitation were Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and vice-president of the Council of State of the Republic of Cuba, and other senior officials of the Cuban party and state and officials concerned.

Members of the DPRK party and Government delegation headed by Kang Hui-won, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-premier of the Administration Council, Pak Chung-kuk, DPRK ambassador to Cuba, and his embassy officials and the heads of the DPRK delegations of technical cooperation active in Cuba were present at the reception.

Addressing the reception, Kang Hui-won said that Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, a great revolutionary produced by the Cuban people, set out on the road of revolution with burning passion in his early years and has wisely led the Cuban revolution along a straight road of victory.

Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz enjoys undisputed support and respect from the Cuban people and the revolutionary people the world over, he noted, stressing:

The particular intimacy and revolutionary obligation between the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and respected Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz constitute the solid bedrock of friendship and unity between the peoples of the DPRK and Cuba and its everlasting viability.

Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz spoke next.

He stressed that though Cuba and Korea are far away from each other geographically, they are revolutionary countries which are firmly defending the cause of socialism with common desire and purpose.

The true revolutionary stand of the two peoples, he noted, finds expression in that they never make concessions as regards principle but firmly maintain it in the struggle for the victory of socialism and communism against imperialism.

Referring to the East European situation, he stated that it does not mean a crisis of socialism.

He expresed deep thanks to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il for having sent precious gifts and awarded the title of honorary doctorate to him on his 65th birthday.

Pakistan Prime Minister Sends Gift

SK1508092791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0808 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 15 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song received a gift from Mian Nawaz Sharif, prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

The gift was handed to an official concerned by Shahid M. Aslam, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Pakistan Embassy here.

Nepal To Host Asian Denuclearization Meeting

SK1508093591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0835 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 15 (KCNA)—A meeting of political parties and organizations for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and removal of the U.S. nuclear threat in the Asian region will be held in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal, from Aug. 17 to 18.

This was announced in an information issued by the preparatory committee for the meeting on August 13.

The meeting will be participated in by prominent leaders of political parties and organizations of Asian and Pacific countries.

Kim Il-song Sends Greetings to Congo President

SK1408110891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 14 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on August 13 sent a message of greetings to Denis Sassou-Nguesso, president of the Republic of the Congo, on the 31st anniversary of the independence of the Congo.

President Kim Il-song expressed the belief that the friendly relations between the two countries would further develop and wished the president and the Congolese people great success in the work for the prosperity of the country.

Socialism Develops Productive Forces

SK1408054891 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0006 GMT 4 Aug 91

[NODONG SINMUN 4 August special article: "Socialism Is a Superior System Which Opens Wide the Road for Developmant of Productive Forces"]

[Text] The chuche-oriented position and outlook are most just and scientific position and outlook that enable one to observe all social phenomana in a precise way. Only when one observes the issue of developing society's productive forces based on the chuche-oriented position and outlook, can one precisely understand it.

Just as with all social phenomanon, one should examine the issue of developing productive forces based on man, the master of nature and society. As for the productive forces, they mean the might of man to conquer nature, and are to be composed through combination of man and productive tools.

The basis in these two factors constituting productive forces is man because man plays the most basic and active role in developing productive forces by being directly in charge of production and as the master of production.

Man makes productive tools and, also, man creates meterial assets with these tools. The development of productive tools and production itself will depend on the ideological consciousness of man, on accumulated experiences in production, on scientific and technological knowledge, and on the level of technics and skills.

The issue concerning the developmant of productive forces is one of the important barometers showing the superiority of the relevant social system.

Socialism is an advanced system with boundless potential for rapidly developing productive forces. The theory that productive forces can be further developed in the capitalist system and that they cannot be promptly developed in the socialist system is an unscientific and reactionary theory.

From the outset, developmant of productive forces depends on the characteristic of the relevant social system. The developmant of productive forces can be pushed ahead or may be hindered according to who are the masters of the relevant society and to the ownership of production means.

Even if the production forces develop temporarily in the capitalist society where the exploiting class monopolized and tyrannized over the regime and production means, this does not mean that such developmant was possible because the capitalist system itself is good and attributed to the efforts of the capitalists.

The productive forces are to develop steadily and safely in the socialist society where the popular working masses have become the masters of sovereign power of the state and of production means.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has pointed out: The socialist system opens a wide road for the developmant of productive forces.

The socialist system opens wide the road for the development of productive forces when the revolutionary zeal and creativeness of the popular working masses—the masters directly in charge of developmant of productive forces—are remarkably enhanced.

All activities of man are to be controlled by ideological consciousness. How highly the creative role of man can be demonstrated in the developmant of productive forces depends on ideological consciousness.

The ideology and zeal of man are a decisive driving force in the developmant of productive forces. Because the workers in capitalist society fail to become the masters of the state and society, they do not work with conscious enthusiasm, and the capitalists carry out production by motivating man with money.

However, under the socialist system in which the popular masses become the masters of the state economy and society, man works for himself, for society, and for groups; and the fruits of the workers' labor and production returns to the workers themselves.

Under this system, the interests of the state and popular masses and that of the groups and individuals totally correspond to each other. Therefore, man actively participates in production by displaying the lofty awareness and revolutionary zeal as the master with earnest interest in developing productive forces.

In the socialist society, which is based on collectivism, economic cooperation and unity between the producer masses are to be strengthened and the mass heroism for collective innovations is to be highly demonstrated. Thus, astonishing miracles and innovations are to be registered in production.

The difference between socialism and capitalism in developing productive forces is that socialism depends on the method of inspiring man's ideology and capitalism depends on the method of buying man with money to make him work.

One cannot move man's ideology with money nor can one make man work sincerely. Therefore, under capitalism, fluctuation and reduction in production are a chronic trend. However, in the socialist society, constant and rapid development of production is a law-governed phenomenon.

In the socialist society, in particular, the ideological indoctrination work is strengthened under the leadership of the party. Thus, the level of the people's ideological consciousness is to be constantly enhanced, the workers faithfully participate in labor, and production is carried out more excellently.

Under the socialist system, the productive forces are to develop rapidly because the level of technology and the skills of the popular masses are constantly enhanced and rich production experience is gained.

The development of productive forces is significantly related to scientific and technological knowledge and experience and to the level of technique and skill, together with the level of ideological consciousness of the people participating in production.

When the overall level of technique and skill of the producing masses is high and their experience and knowledge become rich, labor productivity will increase.

Under socialism, the development of technology means the emancipation of workers from arduous labor and thus the workers voluntarily participate in this work by regarding this as a work benefiting themselves.

Thanks to the leadership of the party of the working class and of the state, the scientific and technical education for workers is strengthened and conditions and potential for technological development are to be sufficiently guaranteed.

However, under capitalism, technological development is aimed at making money by capitalists. Therefore, the workers become indifferent to such development. Under capitalism, the producing masses cannot receive systematic education, and their cultural life becomes destitute.

In addition, the might of technological development is being restrained due to such chronic diseases of capitalism as secret business operations and en masse unemployment caused by modern automated means.

This is clearly proven by the fact that today the ranks of illiteracy are expanding in the capitalist countries, including the United States, and the level of professional technique and skill of workers and the level of their knowledge are falling.

This also shows that the capitalist society is an antipopular, futureless society which hinders the creative role of the popular masses, who are the masters of production and directly in charge of production, and which blocks the development of productive forces.

The socialist system opens a wide road for developing productive forces when all objective potentials for the development of productive forces are highly demonstrated to the maximum based on a preplanned and self-reliant economy.

The development of productive forces is to be achieved on the basis of correct management of production and of solid material and technical foundation.

The development of productive forces is to be carried out rapidly or slowly according to the reasonable use of producers and mechanical and technical means and to the conditions of material and technical foundation.

The socialist economy is preplanned economy controlled by the unified guidance of the state and is a self-reliant economy which develops based on its own firm foundation.

For this reason, under socialism, all manpower and material resources are used most effectively thanks to the unified plan of the state, and production is vigorously carried out thanks to its own resources, own technology, and own strength.

At the same time, balance between different economic sectors is actively ensured and various social and economic wastefulness and disorder are removed. Thus, secure development can be achieved based on its own strength by overcoming all economic crises.

The capitalist economy is a market economy and subordinate economy. For this, disorder and confusion in production and the law of the jungle are rampant in capitalist economy. The capitalist economy is doomed to fall in hard-to-escape contradiction and crisis due to en masse unemployment, bankruptcy, and depression.

The imperialists and their mouthpieces rave that the economic development and material prosperity of advanced capitalist countries were achieved thanks to the so-called superiority of the capitalist economic system. However, this is a sophistry with which no one can deceive other people.

As for so-called material prosperity talked about by some capitalist countries, it is realized through cruel exploitation of workers and the colonial plunder of third world countries.

Even in the capitalist society, those who are in charge of developing productive forces are the popular masses, not the exploiting class.

The imperialists made some backward countries their colony and fabricated artificial material prosperity for the purpose of comparing this with that of socialist countries. However, no matter how excellently development may be made, such a subordinate economy will not give genuine welfare, vitality, and a bright future to the working popular masses.

The fact that socialism is a superior society which opens wide the road for development of productive forces, incomparable to capitalism, has been confirmed through our practice.

Under the wise leadership of the party and the leader, our people have built the most superior socialist system under extremely difficult conditions and effected a remarkable upsurge in economic development based on this system. This can be clearly seen from the fact that our people achieved socialist industrialization in a short period of only 14 years, firmly consolidated self-reliant national economy which does not waver by any economic crisis, and made remarkable economic and technological progress beyond imagination.

By achieving the brilliant development of productive forces under the wise leadership of the party and the leader, our people are enjoying an endlessly happy material and cultural life.

Our powerful productive forces firmly guarantee the endless prosperity of the nation and the state and the people's happiness. Through practical life, our people firmly believe that socialism has superiority incomparable to that of capitalism in developing productive forces.

Dailies Commemorate Liberation Anniversary

SK1508102091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0857 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 15 (KCNA)—Papers here today dedicate editorials to the 46th anniversary of the country's liberation.

NODONG SINMUN says that the Korean communists and people won victory in the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle under the leadership of the great leader President Kim Il-song and thus restored the sovereignty of the nation which had been lost at the hand of the Japanese imperialists, won the independence of the country and opened a broad avenue for the building of a new society.

The August 15 liberation was an event of enormous significance in the struggle of our people for socialism and communism and in shaping the destiny of the nation, the paper says, and continues:

The Korean question had been dealt with contrary to the demand of our nation for independence and its will after the second world war. Korea was divided owing to the U.S. occupation of South Korea and the South Korean people have not yet been freed from the colonial rule.

To reunify the country is a greatest desire of the entire Korean nation and our nation must never hand down the the task for national reunification to the posterity.

The entire Korean nation must closely unite with ardent love for the fatherland and the spirit of national independence and strengthen the driving force of national reunification and thus reunify the country independently and in a peaceful way.

To carry into practice the basic principles and ways of achieving great national unity laid down by the great leader is a realistic correct way of achieving national harmony and unity and accelerating national reunification. To this end, it is required to have frequent contacts and travels between Koreans in the North, the South and overseas, actively develop dialogues and realize organizational unity of all the political parties, organizations and compatriots of all strata in the North, the South and overseas.

Independence, peace and friendship are the basic idea of our party's foreign policy.

According to this idea, our people will develop in scope the friendly and cooperative relations with socialist countries and strengthen friendship and solidarity with people of the Third World countries and other peace-loving people of the world.

MINJU CHOSON notes:

The entire people in the northern half of the country extend warm encouragement to South Korean students and people of all segments and overseas Koreans in their heroic struggle under the banner of independent reunification and will vigorously struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, tightly joining hands with them.

Daily on People's Driving Force Toward Socialism

SK1308124991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1012 GMT 13 Aug 91

["Our Socialism Won by Our Own Struggle Under Banner of Independence"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang August 13 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today says in a signed article that our people have built a superior socialism for the people of which they can boast to the world in the protracted and fruitful historical course.

Today our socialism is making a long drive, not wavering in any storm and stress, because our people have built it by their own efforts and struggle as the driving force.

In the first part of the article, the paper says that our socialism is a precious gain won by our people through their own struggle for independence.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught:

"The socialist system in our country is the greatest achievement of our people in their struggle to realize the independence under the excellent leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government of the republic."

The article continues:

The socialism built by our people is a most precious gain which is comparable with nothing and which we will not exchange ever for millions of pieces of gold. It is because our socialism has been built by our people by their own efforts according to their faith under the wise leadership of the party and the leader.

From the first days of pioneering the cause of socialism, our people have consistently maintained the principle of winning the gains of revolution by their own efforts according to their faith, firmly adhering to the independeot stand. In building socialism we have regarded only the revolutionary idea of our party as the unique guiding idea and, as regards the formula and the method, we chose the chuche-oriented method suitable to the conditions of our country, not ready-made theories or other's method, mobilizing our own strength, not other's.

The inherent characteristics of our socialism and its indestructibility lie in that our people have built it entirely with their own things and efforts, not relying on other's help.

Our socialism is a precious gain won by our people on the road of revolution, guided by the great chuche idea, their own guiding idea, the article says, and continues:

As they have made the revolution according to the great chuche idea, their only guiding idea, from the very beginning, our people became a proud people paving the path of new socialism fundamentally different from the old ideological trends, the path of peculiar socialism whose masters are the masses and which is being built by their role. Our people have been able to solve all problems in socialist construction our own way in conformity with the specific conditions of our country in their own spirit, not depdnding on ready-made theories or others' experience since the great chuche idea and our party's correct lines and policies, its embodiment, clearly indicate the road ahead of them.

It is because they have built socialism, guided by the chuche-based line and policies of our party, that our political system today has become a most durable one unprecedented in history, our people's power is faithfully serving the masses and our economic system and economic management system are bringing their advantages and might into full play.

Noting that our socialism is a gain won in the course of overcoming all sorts of trials and difficulties in strict reliance on our own internal force, the article recalls that our people have built the invincible party and power and revolutionary armed forces by their own efforts, reared a great many native cadres by themselves and laid solid foundations of the independent national economy also by their own efforts and technologies under the banner of self-reliance.

In the second part the article says the great socialist gain our people won through their own struggle in the arduous and grim tempest of revolution is a precious fruition of the energetic activities and wise guidance of the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

Pulling through countless trials in the van, the respected leader attained and firmly defended the socialist gain of chuche, the article says, and continues:

The history of his revolutionary activities to establish our precious socialist gain is a course of the struggle along which he personally took upon himself and successfully solved a large number of vast historical tasks.

In the third part the article says it is a noblest task of our entire party members and other working people to firmly defend and glorify down through generations our precious socialist gain won through our own struggle under the wise guidance of the party and the leader.

In our country today the work of defending and glorifying the socialist gain under the guidance of the glorious party is being conducted creditably in a thoroughgoing manner, the article says, and stresses:

What is most important in firmly defending and boundlessly glorifying our precious socialist gain is to continue upholding the banner of the chuche idea. The great chuche idea is the ideological basis of our style socialism and the source of its advantages and invincibility.

South Korea

No Tae-u To Propose Political Conference at UN

SK1508065291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0630 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 15 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u will propose a political conference involving the four powers surrounding the Korean peninsula and South and North Korea next month as an international guarantee for a durable peace and eventual reunification of the Korean peninsula, a senior government official said Thursday.

The president will disclose the proposal through a speech he will deliver in the U.N. General Assembly on Sept. 24, while sticking to the principle that the Korean question ought to be solved by the parties directly responsible, South and North Korea, the official said on condition of anonymity.

His proposal is coming at a time when cross recognitions of Seoul and Pyongyang by allies of the other side is likely to gain momentum following the two Koreas' simultaneous admission to the world body in September.

No's overtures, if materialized, will take the form of the four powers, the United States, the Soviet Union, China and Japan, endorsing via the United Nations a peace formula worked out by South and North Korea, the official said.

He said the proposal will be more realistic than the one No made before the U.N. General Assembly in September 1988 to unveil what he called an international conference for peace on the Korean peninsula.

The political conference, he went on, was based on the 1954 Geneva Conference on Korea, which was convened to discuss the 1953 Korean Armistice device at the resolution of the U.N. General Assembly. The meeting was called at the request of the 15 nations that participated in the Korean war on behalf of South Korea and China and the Soviet Union, North Korea's allies.

"Given the specific geopolitical situation of the Korean peninsula, on which the interests of the four powers converge," he said, "even if an agreement was reached on a peace formula between Seoul and Pyongyang, it would hardly have a viable effect unless the four give an explicit guarantee to it."

There was an advance consultation about No's overtures, when Korea and the United States held high-level policy consultations in Honolulu early this month, he said.

Government Ready To Discuss Issues With North

SK1508031791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0242 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Chonan, South Korea, Aug. 15 (YONHAP)—South Korean President No Tae-u said Thursday his government was ready to discuss "any and all issues" including political and military matters with North Korea to bring peace and eventually reunification to the Korean peninsula.

"To reduce the tension and confrontation on the Korean peninsula and bring about the reconciliation of our people, we are prepared to discuss, without restrictions, any and all issues with the North Korean authorities, including political and military matters," No said in a speech marking the 46th anniversary of the nation's liberation from Japan's colonial rule.

Although the division of the Korean peninsula may have been made by foreign powers, its reunification must be achieved through the Korean people as the Korean people are one even though they live separated under different political systems, the chief executive said.

"If we were to eliminate the vestige of the cold war on our land, we must first start by building mutual trust and understanding by allowing reciprocal visits, exchanges and cooperation," No said at the Independence Hall in Chonan, about 80 kilometers south of Seoul.

"At a time when the world is becoming a global village, we cannot expect inter-Korean relations to improve in the absence of communications, travels, and trade," he said. "We are prepared to participate in the joint construction of factories in select areas of North Korea and in the development of tourist and natural resources. We also have specific plans for South-North joint venture projects in third countries.

He also voiced the hope that during the inter-Korean prime minister's talks scheduled for Aug. 27-30 in Pyongyang agreement will be made on a basic accord setting forth terms for a continued improvement of relations between the halves of the peninsula.

Touching on the simultaneous entry of South and North Korea into the United Nations in September, the president said, it would be undoubtedly the most significant transition in inter-Korean relations since the Korean war. He noted that North Korea's reversal of its longstanding posture and application for a U.N. membership could be construed as an attempt to join the community of open societies.

"I firmly believe that the entry of the two Koreas into the United Nations will serve as a beginning for the removal of confrontation and the threat of war as well as of an era of peace and national unification," No said.

For North Korea to fulfill its role as a responsible member of the international community, it must first normalize and improve inter-Korean relations, he said. As members of the U.N., the two Koreas should actively develop a cooperative and trusting relationship based on mutual recognition and work together toward national reunification, he said.

As for domestic politics, No said, "our domestic politics also should undergo complete transformations, from politics that cause discord and instability to politics that solve national problems and promote national cohesion. Genuine democracy is successful only when individual citizens fulfill their duties and responsibilities."

He said, "As the president who helped usher in a new era of democracy, I will do my utmost to nurture the soil so that we can harvest bountiful fruits in all areas of our national life."

"We are still suffering from the national and territorial division. The international politics that had brought on a tragic division to this nation has itself crumbled, and the Korean peninsula has begun a momentous movement toward reunification," he said.

"This movement, I am sure, will lead to unification, and that day lies in the not-too-distant future. Only when our 70 million brethren shall enjoy living in freedom and happiness within one boundary can we say we have achieved complete national independence," said.

Some 3,000 people from various walks of life were at hand at the ceremony commemmorating Korea's liberation from Japanese rule. Among them were National Assembly speaker Pak Chyon-kyu, Chief Justice Kim Tok-chu, the ruling Democratic Liberal Party's executive chairman Kim Yong-sam and co-chairmen Pak Tae-chun and Kim Chong- pil.

High-Level Consultations With U.S., Japan Set

SK1508030191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0039 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 15 (YONHAP) - Officials from South Korea, the United States and Japan will meet in Seoul in November for high-level policy consultations about developments in Northeast Asia and ways to prevent Pyongyang from developing nuclear weapons, a highly-placed Foreign Ministry official said Thursday.

The consultations, coming against the backdrop of South and North Korea being simultaneously admitted to the United Nations next month, are expected to touch on mid-and long-term policy on Northeast Asia among the three allies as well as exchange opinions on matters of mutual concern among the three nations, the official said.

The three countries agreed on the formation of tripartite policy consultations, when South Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok visited Washington and Tokyo in April. In June working-level consultations were held in Washington to discuss North Korea's refusal to allow outside inspection of its nuclear facilities.

"No concrete schedule has been fixed yet for the three-nation policy consultations, but they will be held before or after the third Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meeting, slated for November in Seoul," the official said.

Korea will be represented by Amb. Yi Si-yong, chief planner of the Foreign Ministry's diplomatic policies, and Yi's U.S. counterpart, David Ross, will attend the session, he said.

South Koreans Demand Apology for Japan's Rule

OW1408135591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1307 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 14 KYODO—Some 400 people marched through downtown Seoul on Wednesday, demanding that Japan officially apologize for its 1910-1945 colonial rule of the Korean peninsula and compensate the victims of its wartime policies.

Marching on the eve of a national holiday marking Korean independence from Japanese rule, the demonstrators also called on Tokyo to locate and return the remains of Koreans who died in areas around Asia and the Pacific where Japan sent them for hard labor.

The marchers belong to a 20,000-member group of South Koreans who lost family members during the war.

Most group members still haven not found the remains of their family members or had any word from the Japanese Government about their fate, group leader Yang Sun-im said.

The march wound through downtown Seoul from Tongdaemun, the city's old east gate, to Pagoda Park, where nationalist leaders issued a declaration of independence in 1919, sparking nationwide demonstrations suppressed by Japanese troops.

"Rather than showing remorse for its crimes, Japan has tried to evade its postwar responsibility through deceptive tricks," the group said in a statement.

The group, known as the Association of Bereaved Family Members of Victims of the Pacific War, criticized Japan's recent dispatch of minesweepers to the Persian Gulf, saying Tokyo is planning to rearm.

The group also called on the South Korean Government and National Assembly to take "drastic" steps to settle the issues left by World War II.

Japan insists that the 1965 treaty normalizing relations with South Korea relieves it of any further obligation for its colonial rule of the Korean peninsula.

Tokyo provided 500 million dollars in grants and long-term loans under the treaty but has not compensated individual victims.

The group plans to file a suit in Tokyo on December 8, the 50th anniversary of Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor, demanding compensation in the names of 15,000 of its members.

An estimated one million Koreans were brought to Japan against their will from 1939-1945 for hard labor, while many others were sent to other parts of Asia and the South Pacific as laborers or military prostitutes.

Al-Qadhdhafi Invites No Tae-u to Libya

SK1408125191 Seoul YONHAP in English 1236 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 14 (YONHAP)—Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has officially invited South Korean President No Tae-u to visit Tripoli, a vernacular daily reported.

The HANGUK ILBO said in its Thursday [15 August] editions that al-Qadhdhafi recently sent a personal letter to No asking him to visit Libya around Aug. 28 when Libya's great man-made waterway is to be formally dedicated.

Al-Qadhdhafi said in his message that he hoped to show No his gratitude for the Korean contractors' contribution to the construction of the waterway by inviting him to the dedication ceremony, the report added.

The daily, however, said that it would be difficult for No to visit Tripoli in the months to come in view of his tight schedule. No is to deliver a speech in the U.N. General Assembly on Sept. 24 and visit Mexico on his way from New York.

The paper quoted an unnamed government official as saying, "al- Qadhdhafi's invitation was noticeable considering Libya's long-held favoritism toward North Korea." Libya maintains diplomatic relations both with South and North Korea.

No Tae-u Expected To Decline Libya's Invitation

SK1508012491 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 15 Aug 91 p 1

[Text] It has been learned on 14 August that Libya's state leader Qadhdhafi had sent a letter to President No Tae-u to officially invite him to visit Libya.

Given the complete absence of mutual visits between the Korean and Libyan state leaders since the two countries established diplomatic relations in December 1980 and given Libya's being a pro-North Korea country, Libyan state leader Qadhdhafi's invitation for President No is extremely exceptional.

Never before has President No been invited to visit any of the Middle East countries.

In his letter, Libyan state leader Qadhdhafi is said to have expressed gratitude to President No for the successful completion of the Great Man-made River [GMR] project on 28 August thanks to the technology and manpower provided by Korean business firms and hoped that President No could come, if possible, to Tripoli on 28 August, the day the GMR project is expected to be completed.

Meantime, the government is reported to have decided to explain either through the official diplomatic channel or in a reply letter that it is difficult for President No to visit Libya any time soon given his busy schedules—he is expected to deliver a speech at the United Nations on 24 September and his ensuing state visit to Mexico.

A government official in charge of diplomatic affairs said: It is extremely exceptional for Libyan state leader Qadhdhafi to extend an invitation to President No to visit Libya. It seems the recent changes in the international situation, including the passage of recommendations through the UN Security Council urging the South and North to become members of the world body that have led Libya, a country that has maintained closer political and military ties with North Korea even though it has established diplomatic relations with both the South and North, to invite President No.

The same official continued: The fact that the two countries need increased economic cooperation, as evidenced by the full-scale participation of the Korean business firms in the GMR project, may have been one of the reasons that has persuaded the Libyan leader to invite President No. Given the domestic and international situation, however, President No's visit to Libya in the near future is hard to hope for.

Except for a few mutual visits by the two countries' construction and oil ministers concerning the GMR project, virtually no influential government officials from either side of the two countries have exchanged visits.

No Tae-u Meets King Gustaf of Sweden

SK1508002891 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 15 Aug 91 p 2

[Text] President No Tae-u and Swedish King Carl Gustaf XVI agreed yesterday to promote bilateral cultural exchanges and mutual visits by youths, a presidential spokesman said.

Meeting over lunch hosted by No at Chongwadae, the two also exchanged views on the world Scout movement and other matters, spokesman Yi Su-chong said.

Gustaf is visiting here to take part in the 17th World Jamboree in his capacity as honorary chairman of the World Scout Foundation.

Praising Sweden for its role in maintaining world peace, No requested Swedish support for Seoul's efforts to end Cold War confrontations on the Korean peninsula, Yi said.

No also expressed hope that Sweden will actively participate in the '93 Taejon Expo, according to the spokesman.

After the meeting with No, Gustaf visited the jamboree site on the slopes of Mt. Sorak and camped there with scouts from his country, Jamboree organizers said. A total of 141 Swedish scouts and scout leaders are camping at four sub-camps.

Gustaf is to attend the Jamboree closing ceremony today.

Gustaf visited Korea in September 1987 to have a first look at the Jamboree site.

No Tae-u Address at Anniversary Celebration

SK1508071291 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 0121 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Speech by ROK President No Tae-u at the Independence Hall on 15 August, on the occasion of the 46th anniversary of the National Liberation Day]

[Text] Dearly beloved 70 million fellow countrymen of home and abroad, and honored guests of home and abroad who are participating in the National Liberation Day ceremony:

Today we are all sharing with faith the nation's bright future and are welcoming the 46th anniversary of National Liberation Day.

There is no time as today in our modern history when the nation is overfilled with vitality and all the people are filled with confidence. The hope to achieve by the end of this century a glorious nation through the strength of our generation in which our patriotic forefathers yearned for even in their dreams, is drawing close to reality.

The dark days of the past when the nation's right to live was infringed upon by someone else has become a chapter in history. The days of sufferings when the nation was divided by someone else and when the nation had to experience the tragedy of fratricidal war is coming to an end.

The weak power that had to endure the exploitation of the nation's sovereign rights and endure the pressure under colonial rule, has now achieved the establishment of a proud nation that has risen as one of the centers of the world.

The might of freedom and prosperity is being extended vigorously. The day of reunification when 70 million fellow countrymen live peacefully under one nation is approaching.

Fellow countrymen:

The reason our nation was divided into North and South after the war and the reason our nation remained at the borderline of the international society were all due to the cold war system of this world.

During the past three to four years the world was reborn with a new appearance. Today we took the initiative in this epochal reform and pulled down the firm and high wall of the cold war that prevented the development of our future during the past half century.

During the past year we opened diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union which was the other suzerain state of the cold war system, and achieved friendly and cooperative relations. We established diplomatic relations with East European countries and exchanged trade missions with our neighbor, China.

The world before our nation became one and the whole global village became the stage of our people's activities. No outside element of any kind can prevent the development of the future of our nation or be a barrier in reunification. The Moscow declaration which Soviet President Gorbachev and I announced in December 1990 and the result of the ROK-U.S. summit talks that took place last month clearly proves this fact.

The North and South Korean entry into the United Nations amid this kind of change was the greatest turning point in North-South relations since the Korean war. North Korea changed its stubborn attitude of the past. Therefore, for North Korea to join the United Nations will be a start in moving towards an open world.

It is clearly heartbreaking that we joined the United Nations as two member nations and not as one nation. Nevertheless we have pursued this because achieving coexistence and coprosperity between the South and North is a process that we must go through in order to realize reunification.

I am of the firm belief that the UN entry by North and South Korea will eliminate the threat and confrontation of war on this land and will be the starting point in opening the era of a true peaceful and independent reunification.

North and South Korea must all abide by the UN Charter and realize the universal value and principle of the international society so that they can contribute to the world's peace and man's welfare.

Toward this end, the South and North should fulfill their obligations to maintain peace on the Korean peninsula before anything else.

With its closed-door policy and a high wall of isolation, North Korea cannot even hope to develop itself. For no other reason than to act as a responsible member of the international community, North Korea should, above all, normalize and promote its relations with the South.

The South and North should actively seek to achieve a relationship of mutual recognition and cooperation on the basis of mutual recognition and advance hand in hand along the path leading to reunification by becoming members of the United Nations.

My dear fellow countrymen: Although national division was done by some other countries, reunification should be realized on the strength of our own fellow countrymen's will and independent force.

All the questions related to the Korean peninsula should also be resolved through talks between the South and North.

In order to remove tensions and confrontation on the Korean peninsula and realize national reconciliation, we are ready to discuss with North Korea all the issues, including ones in the political and military areas, without restrictions.

To do away with the cold war on this land, the fellow countrymen in the South and North should begin, before anything else, build mutual understanding and confidence through exchange, cooperation, and mutual visits.

Even if they may live in separation in the South and North under different political systems, the Korean people are one. Today, when the whole world has become a global village, no progress can be expected in South-North relations as long as the absence of communications, passage, and trade between the South and North is left to continue.

The material exchange between the South and North growing in volume is welcomed and if such relations continue to expand without interruption, it will greatly help all the people in the country improve the quality of their life.

We are ready to either set up joint venture plants in any specified zone in North Korea or jointly develop tourism and natural resources. We also have a detailed plan for the South and North to make joint inroads into third party countries.

We hope that the South and North will reach a basic agreement necessary to develop relations between the South and North without let-up at the South-North high-level talks to be held soon.

At this round of talks, the South and North should try to reach specific agreements that are mutually beneficial and feasible and, by putting such things into practice one by one, promote practical improvement in their relations.

My dear fellow countrymen: Our country hosted the Seoul Olympics as a festival of mankind reconciliation and the ROK is now soaring as one of the core members of the world because we are based on the glorious strength made possible through the bloodshedding and perspiration of us all.

Without economic support, reunification by which the 70 million fellow countrymen will form a single country, is impossible. We should achieve our long-awaited dream of entering the ranks of advanced countries before the present century is out.

With per capita income estimated at $6,000, our country stands among the newly industrialized countries. The road of jumping from this stage and of catching up with the ranks of the advanced countries is replete with ferocious challenges.

We also face a great deal of tasks to be fulfilled for the improvement of our lives, the causes of feuds and discords that have accumulated in the process of achieving rapid growth. In order to solve all such questions and join the ranks of the advanced countries, it is imperative for the business firms, government, and people to change their attitude to make it more creative and more effective.

Without working more industriously and saving more than the people in the advanced countries, we cannot hope to catch up with them or promise each individual of our people a happy life.

I call on each and everyone of you, the people of Korea, to rise up once again to pool strength for the purpose of furthering the prosperity.

We all share the same faith that only through democracy is it possible to build a country where all the people can enjoy freedom and happiness and that it constitutes the foundation for reunification.

In the course of opening the door to a new era of democracy over the past four years, we have learned a valuable lesson that stability and order are the breeding ground where to bring democracy to blossom. The foundation for democracy and stability is now becoming firm based on national consensus.

Our democracy has entered a stage of maturity where it should in itself serve as an instrument in achieving national unity and in generating power for greater development.

Accordingly, our politics, too, should transform from one that encourages conflict and uneasiness into one that solves problems and coordinates the people's force. Genuine democracy can strike its roots only when all the people fulfill their obligations and play their role.

As the president who has opened the door to democracy, I am determined to lay a firm foundation on which democracy can bear rich fruit in all areas of society.

My dear fellow countrymen: Without correct understanding about history, we cannot look squarely at reality or create a bright future based on it.

The fluctuations and changes our country has gone through since national liberation are indescribable. In the course of enduring the eventful modern history, we even have had no chance to record it systematically and make an appropriate assessment of it.

As a result, there are among us some who maintain a warped and distorted view of our own history. Some in the younger generation are lured to some who deny even the legitimacy of the country based on an anachronistic theory of the class revolution.

As we have tried to deny the past as a whole whenever there were political upheavals, there is a wrong tendency among us to regard everything in our modern history as targets of denial.

The changes that are now taking place throughout the world shows that freedom and democracy are part of the great historical stream that no force on earth can stop.

Communist dictatorship is now finished as a failed history, leaving behind an enormous amount of tragedy and bloodshedding. The legitimacy of this country which has inherited the ROK provisional government in Shanghai that declared itself a democratic republic has now been recognized more firmly than ever by the world and history.

The era of genuine democracy has brought legitimacy to the government, too. If all of our past is wrong and should, therefore, be denied, how can it be explained that we have been able to achieve a rapid development that stuns the world and build a country that is filled with freedom and prosperity as it is now?.

Now, it is our duty to make our past mistakes teach us a true lesson by shedding light on modern history. Also, we should make our next generations carry on the proud history like gem stones.

Even during the darkest periods when our country was in the hands of some other country, our ancestors, making themselves a torch light, shed light on the legitimacy of national history.

Marking the 46th anniversary of national liberation at this Independence Hall where their noble spirits as such reside, let us now pledge that we all rise up in the effort to create a correct history on our own.

My dear fellow countrymen: Before the current century is out, we will, gloriously, be ushering in a new century by achieving national desire. The ability of our people, who, rising like a phoenix from the rubble of war ashes, have built a country full of freedom and vigor as it is today, will not stop here.

Pooling their outstanding national resourcefulness and force, they will build a prosperous and democratic country that will be reckoned with in the world.

Even today when it is only a few years away from celebrating the 50th anniversary of national liberation, national division has not been brought to an end and people are still separated in the South and North. However, the world order that was directly responsible for our national division has collapsed and the Korean peninsula is now on the great move toward reunification.

We will translate the move into reunification. The day of reunification will come in the not so distant future.

Only on the day the 70 million of our fellow countrymen enjoy the freedom and happiness inside the same boundary, will we be consummating a genuine national liberation.

Cherishing deep in our hearts that it is the historic call upon our contemporary fellow country, let us all pledge that we will do our best to bring about a bright future for the country and people.

Celebrating the 46th anniversary of national liberation together will all the people in the country, we now offer our gratitude and respect to the fallen patriotic martyrs and the patriots who fought for national liberation who have made us all so proud.

Thank you. [applause]

'Skeptical' View on No Tae-u's Diplomacy

SK1408123391 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 13 Aug 91 p 2

[Editorial: "How Will ROK-USSR Good Neighbor Treaty Develop?—Staggering Diplomacy While Trying To Read the Face of the United States"]

[Text] Unlike Mr. Chon Tu-hwan, his predecessor, President No Tae-u has been appraised as having made outwardly "splendid" diplomatic achievements. Unlike Mr. Chon Tu-hwan, who was not accorded the treatment of being a guest of state when he visited the United States, President No finally stepped on U.S. soil as a national guest. Since he established diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union and realized the admission of the nation into the United Nations, along with North Korea, he has laid a foundation on which to pride himself on diplomatic achievements.

However, we are seriously skeptical about how President No's diplomatic achievements can be specifically linked to the nation's interests. Since he took office in February 1988, he has advocated the implementation of the northern policy as the top priority. He has made efforts to consolidate his domestic political foundation by promoting the nation's international position through diplomacy. However, he cannot avoid criticism that he has used the successes won in this course as biased propaganda.

The typical example is the summit talks with Soviet President Gorbachev. When the presidents of the ROK and Soviet Union met on Cheju Island on 20 April, they announced that they "agreed to conclude a friendship treaty." However, in the front page of its 11 August edition, HANGYORE SINMUN wrote that the ROK Goverment's position seemed to entirely deny such an agreement, citing instances. It was noted that although nearly four months have passed since the Cheju talks, no full-scale diplomatic contact has occurred between the governments of the two countries for concluding this treaty. Immediately after the summit talks, the ROK

Government announced that negotiations for concluding the friendship treaty had been assigned to the two countries' foreign ministers. It then retreated to the position of "not including military and security-oriented factors" in this treaty. After President No met President Bush in the United States in early July and returned home, the ROK Government admitted that there is a certain limit in the development of ROK-USSR relations.

Needless to say, we clearly remember that immediately after President No lightly consented to President Gorbachev's proposal for concluding a friendship treaty during the April talks in Cheju, a Chongwadae spokesman and Foreign Ministry officials gave incoherent explanations. While announcing respectively on the results of the talks, Yi Su-chong, Chongwadae spokesman, and Ignatenko, spokesman for Gorbachev, revealed that "President No accepted President Gorbachev's proposal for a treaty on friendship and cooperation" and that "they said they were of the same opinion." However, as officials of the relevant government offices and ministries pointed out the problems concerning the friendship treaty, the Chongwadae spokesman modified his announcement and said that "the president agreed to let the two countries' foreign ministers discuss the issue."

When President No met President Gorbachev in San Francisco in the United States last year and held such "disgracefully" short talks, the government propagandized this as a supreme diplomatic success. In addition, when President Gorbachev visited Cheju Island for the first time as head of the state of the Soviet Union after diplomatic relations had been established between the ROK and the Soviet Union, the government accorded such warm hospitality to the Soviet people that they were like guests from a matchless [tasi opmnun] ally. Thus, it seemed quite natural in such an atmosphere that Gorbachev proposed a friendship treaty and that President No accepted it.

Furthermore, the agreement on concluding a friendship treaty was also in compliance with the "Moscow declaration" in December last year. After the talks in Moscow, the two presidents announced a "declaration on general principles for ROK-Soviet Union relations." This declaration is designed to strengthen the cooperation between the two countries for consolidating peace on the Korean peninsula by ending the cold war. The Moscow declaration clearly points out that the two nations "do not recognize any threat by means of force, the use of armed forces, security maintained by sacrificing another country, and solving international and local disputes other than by political agreement based on reasonable agreement among all related countries."

To be faithful to this declaration, both the ROK and the Soviet Union should conclude either a friendship treaty or treaty on good-neighbor relations and cooperation. The ROK and Soviet Union should be linked together even under the title of nations with good-neighbor relations and cooperation, if the title "blood ally," which the ROK offered to the United States for the past half century, is unseemly. Thus, the ROK can discuss peace in Southeast Asia with the Soviet Union.

Two great trends appeared in international relations in the 1990's. One is the effort to consolidate peace through reconciliation, coexistence, and disarmament, which was prompted by Gorbachev's policy of perestroyka; and the second is the idea of a new cold war for the United States and its follower nations that are persistently attempting to recover world hegemony while being forced to follow the first great trend.

It seems very hard to expect the ROK regime, which cannot leave the sphere of political, economic, military, and cultural influence of the United States, to subjectively criticize the United States' hegemonism and to forge cooperative relations with all nations of the world by tiding over ideological barriers. This being the case, President No should even now frankly recognize that concluding a friendship treaty or treaty on good-neighbor relation and cooperation with the Soviet Union is difficult. If he has no ability or intention to implement the agreement reached between the two countries' presidents, he should not instigate the people to have a vain hope but should enable them to correctly understand reality.

DLP Urges Cut in 1992 Fiscal Budget

SK1508010291 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 15 Aug 91 p 2

[Text] The ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] yesterday called for a cut in the government-proposed budget for fiscal 1992 scaled at 33,185 billion won, up 23 percent from this year, arguing that the projected sharp increase would speed up inflation which is already at an alarming level.

But government officials said the drastic rise is necessary to implement such "urgent" projects as the expansion of social infrastructure like roads and ports, and a structural change of the nation's farming sector to cope with the opening of the agricultural market to foreign goods, Rep So Sang-mok said.

According to government statistics, domestic consumer prices in July soared 8.5 percent from a year earlier, while wholesale prices rose 5.4 percent.

At a government-ruling party meeting held at the DLP headquarters in Yoido, Na Ung-pae, the party's chief policy-maker, expressed concern that the proposed budget increase would accelerate price hikes. The budget bill is subject to the approval of the cabinet and the National Assembly.

Na said steps to control the total demand are needed to effectively fight inflation.

Na, former economic planning minister, also asked for a tighter money policy.

Finance Minister Yi Yong-man replied that the total money supply (M2) last year climbed 21 percent over 1989. But a smaller M2 increase rate is projected this year, the minister said.

During the meeting, ruling party officials demanded a reduction in national defense spending and expenditures for salaries for public servants so that money saved in those sectors could be used for projects designed to help farmers, small businesses and poor urbanites.

Rep. Hwang Pyong-tae, a confidant of ruling party executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam, was quoted as saying that "now is time to slash defense spending." He did not elaborate.

The Ministry of National Defense has reportedly requested a 24.7 percent hike in defense spending. But the Economic Planning Board has suggested a 12.3 percent increase.

DLP officials called on the government to increase funds for the implementation of a structural change of the nation's farming industry form 500 billion won to at least 1,000 billion won, So told reporters.

Besides, ruling party officials expressed displeasure at the government's recent decision to raise car insurance premiums and expressway tolls.

They also objected to the government's reported plans to raise prices of gasoline and introduce legislation to incept the so-called "Road Tax."

More taxes could trigger "tax revolt" from the people, they said.

* Biography of Chairman Yang Hyong-sop

912C0230A Seoul PUKHAN in Korean No 5, May 91 pp 162-170

[Article by Naewoe reporter Chong Sung-chi: "Chairman Yang Hyong-sop of the Supreme People's Assmebly To Preside at the IPU [Interparlimentary Union] Meeting in Pyongyang"]

[Text] The North Korean political structure is a special single-party totalitarian system under the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] which, in turn, is controlled by one leader—Kim Il-song. The WPK is not only the chief of staff for the revolution, but also is the commander of the revolution. Therefore, it represents the highest form of revolutionary organization because it leads, organizes, and controls all types of political structures and government agencies. The leader is the absolute embodiment of the proletariat. As the absolute embodiment of the proletarian dictatorial system, his position is absolute and his decisions are final.

Therefore, the various North Korean political organizations make up the WPK's substructure and serve no other purpose than a conduit to the public, and the WPK is nothing more than the private party of its leader. The single party dictatorship is based on Stalin's version of the socialist system, but putting a leader in absolute control of this system is unique to North Korea.

Even though the North Koreans seem to have a unique political system, in a broader view one can see that they have the same legislative, judicial and executive branches as are common to democracies. However, under the North Korean system the division between the three branches is not clear and all are subject to the control of the leader, something fundamentally different from a free, democratic form of government.

In the North Korean system, the power invested in a democracy's executive branch is held by the State Administration Council, the power of the judicial branch is handled by the court system, and both are subordinate to the Central People's Committee. The Supreme People's Assembly, which is the legislative branch, is the highest independent governmental body according to the North Korean Constitution, but in reality it only holds nominal power limited to ratification of administration policy and is subject to the control of the national leader.

Yang Hyong-sop is the chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly, the supreme organ of government as defined by the North Korean socialist constitution. His counterpart in South Korea is Pak Chun-kyu, speaker of the National Assembly and a key leader of one of the three branches of the South Korean Government.

Yang Hyong-sop was first elected to the position of chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly in April 1983 during the first meeting of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly and, since he was re-elected to the post in May 1990, he will continue to serve three consecutive terms. He has maintained his position for eight years as chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly which represents the highest organ of national power.

However, Yang Hyong-sop, either as an individual person, or as chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly, has not attracted much attention in the outside world. The reason for this is related to his personality, but is also because the power of the chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly is limited and the position is far from the core of political power and is mostly symbolic.

Controlling the 85th IPU [Interparlimentary Union] General Meeting

Recently, Yang Hyong-sop came to the public's attention. There are two main reasons for this.

The first reason is that in North Korea the power of the Supreme People's Assembly has been limited, however, its role has been expanded and Yang Hyong-sop's position has become more important.

This increase in importance of the Supreme People's Assembly is shown in North Korean foreign policy and its stance toward South Korea. In November 1989, the North Koreans established under the Supreme People's Assembly the Foreign Affairs Committee, with Ho Tam as chairman, and in May 1990 installed the Reunification Policy Committee, under the chairmanship of party secretary Yun Ki-pok, in order to lay the foundation for a more active and important Supreme People's Assembly in the area of foreign policy and relations with South Korea.

North Korea's establishment of the Foreign Affairs Committee aimed at intensifying foreign policy activities by the legistative branch, namely the Supreme People's Assembly, in order to extricate itself from the international isolation that resulted from democratic reforms that took place in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. The North Koreans have shown that this change has been more than just cosmetic by the recent increase in invitations to legislative delegations and diplomatic visits as a countermeasure against the South's "Northern Policy" and also as a means to keep abreast of the Western countries.

For example, last year the Supreme People's Assembly warmly welcomed a number of foreign politicians and hosted dinners in their honor which were attended by the following dignitaries:

- Guilio Orland, Italian senator and chief of the Christian Democratic Party members on the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee.
- Senator Gustaf Hofman from Belgium.
- Hans Sterhken, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Bundestag of the Federal Republic of Germany.
- Senator Rene Reynault from France.

In return, the Foreign Affairs Committee of West Germany's Bundesrat sponsored a visit for the delegation of the newly established Supreme People's Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee (from 13 to 15 September 1990), just prior to German reunification.

The second reason is that North Korea has managed to bring the 85th IPU (Interparliamentary Union) meeting to Pyongyang from 29 April to 4 May and Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly, will preside over the meeting.

Yang Hyong-sop has performed an active role as host of the IPU general meeting. On 27 March, he sent a telephone message to the speaker of the South Korean National Assembly, Pak Chun-kyu, to request the list of South Korean representatives to the meeting and to inform him that they are "allowed to pass through Panmunjom" when entering North Korea.

The IPU was established in Paris, France in 1889 and in 1971 it became an international organization as a result of the Headquarters Agreement with the Swiss Government. The purpose of this organization is to:

- Promote mutual relationships between parliamentarians from member countries.
- Establish and improve the representative system.
- Promote solidarity among the member countries for international peace and cooperation.
- Express opinions on the solutions to international problems.

In view of the purpose of the IPU as such, the fact that North Korea induced the IPU meeting to Pyongyang demonstrates the level of intensification of their legislative diplomacy.

The IPU currently has 109 member countries, including North and South Korea. South Korea joined in August 1964 during the 95th Board of Directors meeting held in Copenhagen, and North Korea joined in October 1973 during the 113th board of directors meeting that was held in Geneva. In addition, in October 1983 South Korea hosted the 70th IPU plenary meeting.

Yang Hyong-sop became the focus of public attention for the reasons that foreign policy activities were intensified under the Supreme People's Assembly in order to cast off its diplomatic isolation, even though the Assembly represents little more than a group that routinely rubber stamps government policy, and that in the next few days when the meeting takes place Yang Hyong-sop will appear gaily on the international stage as the chairman of the IPU plenary meeting.

Getting back to the subject of this article, we will look at at Yang Hyong-sop's personality and background, his experience and activities in power in the North Korean Government.

Activities of the "Communist Youth League" After Liberation

It is known that Yang Hyong-sop was born in 1923 in Yonggwang, South Hamgyong Province. However, there is also a different opinion that places his birthplace in Kyongju or Cheju. Therefore, exact details of his childhood are not known.

Yang Hyong-sop became involved in the North Korean Government power structure shortly after liberation and before the North Korean Government was founded. At the time of liberation, he was a sturdy 22-year-old who had joined the Communist Youth League and assisted in founding the communist regime in the North, both directly and indirectly.

His big chance came when he became a member of the primary cadre of the Communist Youth League, and when he attracted the attention of high-ranking cadres of the League to recommend him for enrollment in Kim Il-song University. It was in 1947, when he was 24 years old.

He stood out at Kim Il-song University, and taking a part in the North Korean plan to develop their human resources at the early stage of founding the government, he left to study abroad just before the war broke out on 25 June. He attended elite communist training courses at Moscow State University, where he remained for four years until 1953.

He is known to be bright and to have received high grades at Moscow State University after finishing at Kim Il-song University. Thus, he has established firm ground for becoming a talented man to lead the next generation of North Korea.

Especially, his studying abroad which increased the breadth and depth of his knowledge—the basic objective of foreign study—became the most important turning point in his life. If for no other reason, this time was important because while he was studying at Moscow State University he met and got married to Kim Sin-suk, the first daughter of Kim Il-song's oldest paternal aunt, thereby making him a member of Kim Il-song's family.

Yang Hyong-sop is then the husband of Kim Il-song's father's sister and the elder brother-in-law of Ho Tam, who is ranked 11th in power and influence in North Korea and who is the chairman of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland and also the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Supreme Peope's Asembly.

In July 1986 Yang Hyong-sok's wife, Kim Sin-suk, passed away and now he lives by himself. It is not clear how many children he has, but his oldest daughter, Yang Song-hui, who is in her late thirties, is a university professor and his son-in-law, Ho Pong-ho, is a professor at the Higher Party School.

After 1970 the Husband of the Daughter of Kim Il-song's Paternal Aunt Stands Out

Yang Hyong-sop is built like a typical scholar. He is six feet tall, has a big head and wide forehead, wears glasses, and is warm and personable. In fact, he worked until the 1960's as a scholar of educational research and still concurrently holds the title of director of the Academy of Social Sciences.

Yang Hyong-sop is a person who has easily succeeded in the North Korean power structure due to his personality, disposition, and special relationship with Kim Il-song as the husband of the daughter of his paternal aunt. Here is a list of his career accomplishments: In 1954 he finished studying at Moscow State University, returned to North Korea and began working as dean of education at the People's Economic University; in 1961 he became superintendent of the Party Central School; in 1967 he was awarded with the position of minister of higher education; in 1970 he became a member of the party's Central Committee and the Political Bureau and the party's secretary; and currently he is the director of the Academy of Social Sciences (1980) and the chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly (1983).

[Box, p 167]

Foreign Relations Activities as Chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly

May 1983	Visited Poland, East Germany, and Bulgaria.
April 1983	Participated in the 132d IPU Board of Directors meeting held in Finland.
July 1983	Visited China.
March 1984	Visited Burundi and the Congo.
January 1985	Visited France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands.
June 1985	Visited Tunisia and North Yemen.
September 1985	Visited Finland.
March 1986	Visited the Soviet Union.
April 1986	Visited Syria.
September 1986	Attended the 76th IPU general meeting held in Argentina.
January 1987	Visited several African countries.
September 1987	Visited China.
October 1987	Attended the 78th IPU general meeting in Thailand.
May 1988	Visited Pakistan, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand.
December 1988	Visited Czechoslovakia, Romania, Indonesia, and Thailand.
January 1989	Visited Cuba.
February 1989	Visited Egypt, Guinea, Venezuela, Mali, Togo, the Congo, Angola, and Rwanda, as Kim Il-song's special envoy.
April 1989	Visited India.
July 1989	Visited Iran, Pakistan, and the Soviet Union.
August 1989	Attended the 82d IPU general meeting held in England.
June 1990	Visited Equatorial Guinea, Cameroon, Sierra Leone, Guinea Bissau, and Senegal.

[end box]

Yang Hyong-sop was only 47 years old during the fifth party congress of the Workers Party of Korea. He rapidly ascended to power in the North Korean Government and was ranked 14th in power when he was appointed to the Political Bureau and the party secretary.

The reason that he was able to quickly stand out in the system lay in the special circumstances in which Kim Il-song's unitary system was in the making. After the establishment of the communist political regime, Kim Il-song exerted efforts to found a unitary ruling structure by ceaselessly purging people who opposed him and during the late 1960's he even purged his close supporters and partisans such as Ho Pong-hak and Kim Chang-pong and replaced them with professional technocrats and second generation revolutionaries.

During this period, Yang Hyong-sop came to the fore uneventfully as a new power element, who received professional education after liberation, and also as a member linked to the Kim Il-song family. Among those who emerged to power at this time, along with Yang Hyong-sop, were Kim Yong-chu, who was Kim Il-song's younger brother, Pak Song-chol, and Ho Tam.

Yang Hyong-sop has been active in four different areas of the government: chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly, in work related to education, the party, and issues relating to South Korea.

Chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly Since 1983

His adult life can be divided into the following periods: during the prime of his life—after he returned from studying in Moscow until the late 1960's—he mainly worked in the education field; since 1970 when he was promoted to membership on the WPK's Central Committee and to an alternate membership on the Political Bureau during the fifth party congress he worked for the party, until the mid-1970's; and from 1983 on, he has worked as chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly. As to his anti-South work, he has been not directly involved, but indirectly involved through his position as chairman of the "Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland," since his appointment to a leadership position of the front in the late 1970's.

In 1954, he was the dean of the Politics and Economics Faculty at the People's Economic University; in 1957 he became section chief of the Science Education Department of the party's Central Committee, and three years later he was promoted to the position of its deputy director; in 1957, he earned a Ph.D which formed the base of his reputation as a theoretician; and in August 1960 he attended the 25th International Oriental Scholars Meeting, held in Moscow, as the North Korean representative and read a paper entitled "The Korean People's Struggle for Peaceful Reunification and Socialist Construction."

In 1961, he became the superintendent of the Party Central School and in 1962 took the position of director of the Marxist-Leninist Research Center of the party Central Committee, thus becoming a typical theoretician in North Korea. In 1967, he reached the highest position related to the administration of higher education by his appointment as minister of higher education.

During the last part of the 1950's, Yang Hyong-sop worked as a party cadre for the first time in the science education department of the party's Central Committee. It was during the fifth party congress which lasted for 12 days, from 2 to 13 November 1970, that he was selected to the party's Central Committee, the center of power of the WPK. At this party congress he rose quickly to the rank of 14th in power and became one of the most watched people in North Korea. That year, in July, several months before he was appointed to the position of party secretary, it was predicted that he would be the one to fill the gap left by partisans Ho Pong-hak and Kim Chang-pong who were purged from their powerful positions in 1969.

In 1972 he occupied the position of chairman of the Bills Committee of the newly established Central People's Committee, which is the highest leading organ of the government in accordance with the revised socialist constitution, and after that held no particular position until he began working in the party's Central Committee.

In 1983 Yang Hyong-sop became chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly, but he first started working for the Supreme People's Assembly in October 1962 when he became a deputy to the third Supreme People's Assembly. Until now he has continued to be a deputy to the Assembly serving seven terms until he became the chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly in 1983.

Duty To Confirm Decisions Made by the Party and the Leader

The North Korean Supreme People's Assembly is composed of deputies who are elected to four-year terms and each member represents 30,000 people. Currently, the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly is composed of 687 representatives who were elected in April 1990.

The role of the Supreme People's Assembly is different than that of a comparable body in a free democratic system because their actual authority is insignificant and they merely confirm decisions already made by the party and the leader. For example, the Eighth Supreme People's Assembly met five times (2 November 1986 to 22 April 1989) and approved five bills during the time it met.

[Box, p 169]

1950	Studied Abroad at Moscow State University.
1954	Dean of Education at the People's Economic University.
1961	Superintendent of the Party Central School.
1962	Chief of the Marxist-Leninist Research Center of the party's Central Committee. A deputy to the third Supreme People's Assembly.
1967	Awarded the position of minister of higher education.
1977	Director of the Bills Committee of the Central People's Committee.
1983	Chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly.
Present	A member of the WPK Central Committee, director of the Academy of Social Sciences, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, deputy chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland.

[end box]

The chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly does not hold any real power. Instead, it is a ceremonial position more responsible for establishing relationships and cooperation with foreign legislative bodies. For this reason, since his election as chairman, he has taken the lead in legislative diplomacy by travelling abroad two to five times a year to meet parliamentarians from foreign legislative organs, often extending invitations for them to travel to North Korea.

He began to become involved with South Korean issues in 1979 when he became a leading member of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland. However, even though he is one of the chairmen of this group, his role is insignificant because the organization is a consultative body that unites most of the political groups in North Korea and the WPK. In truth, after the 1980's, North Korea has been using the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland more actively than the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland.

In this connection, the fact that in 1984 Yang Hyong-sop became deputy chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland (Ho Tam, chairman) should be regarded as very important.

Yang Hyong-sop has also been able to influence North Korean policy toward South Korea through his position as chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly. That is how he became involved with the IPU general meetings and North-South Korean parliamentary meetings. The second meeting of South/North Korean high-ranking officials was held in Pyongyang in October of last year, and Yang Hyong-sop in his capacity as chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly took the initiative in holding a farewell party at the Moknan Restaurant on Chollima Street.

Yang Hyong-sop showed his positive attitude toward reunification matters during a dinner speech when he said "As a responsible politician, I have the courage to hold hands with South Korean assemblymen as a way to rebuild a nation," and he quoted the proverb "three shoe repairmen are better than one strategist [chegalyang]."

The Establishment of North Korean Basic Ideology

As examined above, Yang Hyong-sop spent most of his youth and adulthood working in the areas of education and ideology. Therefore, he is more of a theoretician than an activist. From this standpoint, since in this period of time, the "Kim Il-song unitary ideology system" was established and the campaign to personify Kim Il-song and his family was intensified, Yang Hyong-sop seems to have had a role unlike anyone else in laying down the basic ideology of the North Korean political regime.

Accordingly, that Yang Hyong-sop has been able to maintain his status smoothly in the North Korean political power structure, where uncertainty is extremely high, seems to ultimately reflect his secret of success in life, that is his service to the maintenance and improvement of the Kim Il-song system and Kim Sin-suk's "heavy string" connection to the Kim Il-song family.

In this connection, it is understandable that although Yang Hyong-sop does not have real power, he has maintained the position of chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly for three consecutive terms, thus he is treated as a semi-senior politician through the symbol of his position.

From this standpoint, Yang Hyong-sop has brilliantly survived the impersonal and austere North Korean power machine, no matter what his personal convictions are. Accordingly, his "skill" will be closely watched during the 85th IPU General Meeting to be held in Pyongyang on 29 April.

Daily Sues Government for 1980 Closure of Paper

SK1408112191 Seoul YONHAP in English 1030 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 14 (YONHAP)—The vernacular daily HANGUK ILBO lodged a complaint against the government on Wednesday, demanding 10 billion won in damages for the forced closure of its sister paper, SEOUL KYONGJE SINMUN, in 1980.

In the complaint filed with the Seoul District Civil Court, the morning daily argued that the Defense Security Command's [DSC] shut-down of the economic paper under martial law had violated the Constitution.

The DSC was not vested with the power to control mass media or threaten the management to close down the economic daily at that time, the daily said.

The newspaper company had submitted the same complaint to the Seoul district prosecution on Nov. 12, 1989, and March 5 this year but the case was dropped.

Burma

Khin Nyunt Cites 'Pressure' From 'Big Nations'

BK1508144491 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Excerpts] The eighth work coordination meeting of the National Health Committee opened at the conference hall of the Universities Central Council at 1030 today. The meeting was addressed by Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC].

In his opening speech Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt, who is also the chairman of the National Health Committee, said it has almost been three years now that the SLORC has been undertaking the responsibilities of the state. Throughout this period, the SLORC has been giving special emphasis to the development of the education and health sectors and to the constructive tasks of the nation. [passage omitted]

He said despite the efforts being made to provide full civil rights by promoting education, health, and sports for the people, the SLORC government is falsely being accused of violating human rights by some big nations which do not want to see our country developed or stable. False allegations are also being made that our government is encouraging the spread of narcotic drugs. These attempts are designed to topple the SLORC government and to install the people they favor.

Recently, the member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations were pressured by the big nations. But, these neighboring countries which understand the true situation in our country had shown consideration to Myanmar [Burma] and had rejected the pressure applied by the big nations. Because they did not achieve what they wanted, these big countries will resort to other means to apply pressure.

For example, false allegations were made that Myanmar was involved in the failed BCCI bank incident. Today, we find out in the newspapers that the CIA is involved in that incident. Some big nations are continuing their work with ulterior motives. They are trying to disrupt the Myanmar economy by creating economic instability. We will however continue to do whatever is necessary for the development of the nation.

Efforts will continue to develop the health sector. To keep the spirit of patriotism and nationalism alive and dynamic, it is essential to carry out the health programs as a national movement. [passage omitted]

PRC Trip Follows Controversy for Thai Visit

BK1408032991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 14 Aug 91 p A4

[Text] Burmese military junta leader Gen Saw Maung will visit China next week at the invitation of Chinese President Yang Shangkun after his planned trip to Thailand was put on hold.

Informed government sources said Saw Maung was invited to visit Bangkok in June by the Thai military. The invitation was extended to the Burmese leader by outgoing Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong when he visited Rangoon a few days before the coup in February.

The sources said the Thai Foreign Ministry, conscious of the international community's criticism of the regime in Rangoon, raised objections to the invitation.

The sources said the Foreign Ministry did not want Thailand to be seen as endorsing the Saw Maung regime which came to power in a bloody power seizure in 1988. Western countries have also strongly condemned the regime for its human rights violations.

Of all the six countries in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Thailand has the closest ties with the government in Rangoon. Thailand was the most vocal in resisting pressure from Western countries to condemn human rights violations in Burma during the recent annual ASEAN meeting with its dialogue partners in Kuala Lumpur.

One of the sources said the Thai military seemed determined in having Saw Maung visit Thailand. "They are reportedly planning to offer him a royal decoration as an excuse for his presence here in the near future," the source said.

Burma was the first country to congratulate the National Peacekeeping Council, of which Gen Sunthon is chairman, after it seized power in the Feb 23 coup. China was the second country to do it.

With his trip to Thailand postponed, Saw Maung will now make his first overseas trip since coming to power to China, the sources said.

China's XINHUA NEWS AGENCY announced yesterday morning in a report monitored here that Saw Maung and his delegation would travel to China on a working visit between August 20 and 25. But it gave no other details of whom the Burmese leader will meet and the strength of his entourage.

China has also been condemned by the international community for brutally crushing pro-democracy student movement in 1989. China and Burma have been enjoying improved relations in the past year.

During a visit to Burma in November 1989, Yunan Governor He Zhiqiang signed six Sino-Burmese trade and economic agreements, including cooperation to survey and develop coal and tin mining.

Late last year, a diplomatic source said China and Burma signed a US$1.2 billion arms deal. Among the items China was to sell Burma were 12 F-6 jet fighters, a number of medium-size tanks among a long list of war weaponry.

Also included in the military aid package was a training programme for Burmese military personnel under which some 400-600 Burmese officers underwent training in Chinese cities.

The 12 EC foreign ministers last month jointly called for an embargo on the sales of war materials to Burma which they said was spending inordinate sums of money on arms despite the country's meagre resources.

China is among several nations which have sold military equipment to Rangoon. The Soviet Union recently offered the Mi-8 and Mi-17 helicopters and SU-26 and AN-32 transport planes to Burma.

China is Burma's largest trading partner and the two-way cross border transactions in one border country reportedly increased more than 150 times between 1983 and 1990 to 30 million yuan (US $5.6 million), according to XINHUA.

Elections Commission Solicits Parties' Views

BK1508121191 London BBC in Burmese to Burma 1400 GMT 14 Aug 91

[From the program "Current World Affairs"]

[Text] According to residents in Yangon [Rangoon], the Elections Commission is reported to have sent out questionaires to political parties on their political views. This is the second time in six months that such questionaires have been distributed and it is believed that the questions are likely to perturb political parties. The questionaires sent out this time appear to be aimed at causing destabilization among the political parties, including the National League for Democracy [NLD], which won the elections over a year ago but was prevented from forming a government. Pam O'Toole reports as follows:

The latest questions were not asked by the military junta, but by the Elections Commission. The questions contain matters that leave no room for mistakes with reference to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, detained leader of the NLD and the government in exile of the NLD. The political parties were asked whether they support the Manerplaw-based NLD group led by Dr. Sein Win and what their views were as to what should be done about this group. The government formed by the group was rejected by the remaining NLD leaders in Yangon soon after its formation in December last year. It is likely that any party that expressed support for such a government is likely to be banned.

The question also asked political parties whether they are aware that some persons—including Daw Aung San Suu Kyi—of some political parties are unacceptable to the military government in terms of the law and background history. In another question aimed at representatives elected in the last elections, the Elections Commission asked the political parties whether they are aware that there are persons among their members who have infringed upon the Elections Law and Rules. Such questions, and the amendments to the Elections Law last month, are likely to cause difficulties among political parties. The amendments to the Elections Law were made retroactive to May of last year.

The amendments contain provisions under which elected persons could be removed from their positions for certain infringements and offenses, which are defined. The offenses range from major crimes, such as rape and high treason, to minor offense such as foreign exchange offense and disrespect for the state flag. There are also offenses under the Official Secret Act. The observers believe that this wide-ranging law was included so that it could be used in case it is needed by the military government.

The most perturbing question in the questionnaire asks the political parties whether they have any proposal for the timetable for the next People's Assembly elections. The elections that were held last May were meant for the People's Assembly, but the military government did not honor the results of those elections. It would be difficult to answer whether the government is genuinely interested in holding another round of People's Assembly elections or whether it was really interested in sounding out the opinions of the political parties.

It is likely that the majority of those who contested in the last elections will not be able to contest in the next elections as some of them have been imprisoned, while others have fled to the border regions or have been disqualified under the amended Elections Law. Another point is that the military government previously stated that it would hold a national convention before the holding of the next elections; however, it has not been mentioning this matter.

In view of the past actions of the military junta, the political parties are likely to be suspicious of the questionnaires as the military government is likely to take action against them for drawing up the schedule for the next elections.

Over 350 NLD Members Flee to Thai Border

BK1508011591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Aug 91 p 6

[Excerpt] Over 350 National League for Democracy [NLD] members have fled the Saw Maung military regime to live with Burmese minorities at the Thai-Burmese border, U Win Khet, general-secretary of the Central Organising Committee of the NLD, said in Manerplaw recently.

About 50 of them were former MPs [members of parliament] and the rest were former politicians and activists, he said.

U Win Khet believes that more NLD members will flee Rangoon to join forces with Burmese minorities if the Saw Maung Government continues to round them up for detention.

Concerning a report in the WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY that Rangoon is planning to draft a new constitution and give more freedom to minorities, U Win Khet commented that it may be only a rumour to ease international pressure against the military junta.

NLD Representative Disqualified Under New Law

BK1408145891 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 14 Aug 91

["Full text" of Announcement No. 956 issued by the Commission for Holding Multiparty Democratic General Elections; dated 14 August]

[Text] Subject: Declaration that U Maung Maung Kyaw, elected representative [of National League for Democracy, NLD] shall have no right to continue to be a People's Assembly representative on the grounds of infringement of Subsection J of Article 11 of the People's Assembly Elections Law and Nullification of election of U Maung Maung Kyaw as People's Assembly representative.

1. U Maung Maung Kyaw was elected as representative of the People's Assembly from Botataung constituency in Yangon [Rangoon] Division during the multiparty democratic general elections held on 27 May 1990.

2. U Maung Maung Kyaw was tried by a court for fraud and had been convicted under Article 417 of the Criminal Procedures Code. Therefore, he had been found to have committed an offense relating to moral turpitude.

3. Therefore, U Maung Maung Kyaw shall have no right to continue to be a representative of the People's Assembly on the grounds of infringement of Subsection J, Article 11 of the People's Assembly Law.

4. It is hereby announced that effective today U Maung Maung Kyaw, Citizenship Scrutiny Certificate No. 12 Ba-Ta-Hta [Botataung Township] 021291, shall have no right to stand for elections as a People's Assembly candidate in elections to be held within 10 years in accordance with Article 80-B of the People's Assembly Law. By the authority vested in me. Signed: Aye Maung, secretary.

General Denies Rice Shortage, Devaluation Rumors

BK1408045391 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 0130 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Excerpts] Major General Myo Nyunt, chairman of the Yangon [Rangoon] Division Law and Order Restoration Council, held a meeting with chairmen of the township zone and township law and order restoration councils at the Yangon Division Law and Order Restoration Council office in Yangon at 1330 yesterday. At the meeting Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt discussed agricultural and livestock breeding and rumors presently being spread.

Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt said chairmen of township zone and township law and order restoration councils must work with the slogan: Grow everything edible and breed everything edible, and act within the framework of the plans laid down by undertaking agricultural and livestock breeding tasks collectively, as well as on a manageable scale to the extent possible within your own regions.

Regarding the rumors being spread among the people today, Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt said: Rumors say the 90-kyat and 200-kyat currency notes will be devalued, and these notes are thus being exchanged for 70 kyat and 180 kyat, respectively. He said: It is essential to consider whether there is any truth behind the rumors regarding the devaluation. A similar rumor is also being spread about the 5-kyat and 10-kyat currency notes. It is alleged that since the phrase "Union of Burma" is on these notes they are no longer up-to-date in the "Union of Myanmar."

The Information Committee of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] has already explained these matters at its No. 24 news conference on 27 January 1989. It has said that there is no plan whatsoever by the SLORC to devalue the currency while SLORC is in charge of the state. It has been explained that the currency can be used, saved, and invested in with confidence.

Similarly, at the No. 29 news conference on 3 March 1989, Brigadier General Abel, minister of planning and finance and trade, said that currency notes will not be demonetized under the present government and there are no plans to do so. Again, at the No. 41 news conference held on 29 May 1989, it was explained that although the name change from the Union of Burma to the Union of Myanmar has taken effect, it will have no bearing on the name "Union of Burma Bank." The currency notes will not become illegal nor will they be reduced in value. They can be used with confidence. It was also said at that time that since a guarantee has already been given that the currency in circulation will not be declared illegal, no further explanations will be forthcoming in this regard in the future. [passage omitted]

Action should be taken against those who have spread the rumors. There are also reports suggesting the need to hoard rice due to the floods in the Delta region. This is only a temporary difficulty caused by the flooding of rail lines and roads. The rumors should not be believed. There is no need to hoard rice. Some greedy entrepreneurs are spreading the rumors for personal gain only. It is evident to everyone that even some private rice dealers are telling rice buyers that there is no basis for fears of a rice shortage. It is essential that we find and take action against those spreading the rumors about the rice. [passage omitted]

Cambodia

National Assembly Session Begins 14 Aug

BK1408144591 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 14 Aug 91

["Report" on the first day of the 21st session of the State of Cambodia's First National Assembly]

[Text] On 14 August, the State of Cambodia's National Assembly solemnly opened its 21st session, first legislature, under the chairmanship of Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the State of Cambodia's National Assembly, to evaluate the outcomes achieved in the first half of the year and to adopt the plan of tasks to be implemented in the second half.

All day long, members of parliament from every constituency paid attention to the report on the activities of the National Assembly and State Council and comments by the National Assembly's Legislative Commission; Cultural and Social Affairs Commission; Economic, Planning, and Budgetary Commission; and Nationalities Commission.

Along with this, the audience also listened to reports on the implementation of the expert tasks of the People's Supreme Court in the first half of 1991; the activities of the attorney general attached to the People's Supreme Court; the implementation of the first half of the year's socioeconomic planning and its goals for the second half; the implementation of the financial task and state budget in the first half of the year and its objectives in the second half; the amendment to the 1991 state budget; the foreign affairs task carried out in the first half of 1991—including, specifically, negotiations to achieve genuine peace in Cambodia—and the military situation and K-5 and proselytization work in the first half of 1991.

The National Assembly adjourned its session this afternoon. It will resume again tomorrow morning according to the agenda.

Leaders Attend Opening

BK1408063991

[Editorial Report] Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian at 0430 GMT on 14 August carries a 30-minute recorded report on the opening of the "21st Session of the First National Assembly" held at 0630 [2330 GMT] on 14 August at the National Assembly building in Phnom Penh. The 30-minute report includes a 17-minute speech by National Assembly Chairman Chea Sim.

After describing the scene and the seats arranged at the site of the session, the announcer says: "Sitting in the first and second rows were Comrade Heng Samrin, secretary general of the party Central Committee, chairman of the Council of State, and National Assembly member from Phnom Penh Constituency; Comrade Hun Sen, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and National Assembly member from Kompong Cham Constituency; Comrade Say Phuthang, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the Central Control Commission, vice chairman of the Council of State, and National Assembly member from Phnom Penh Constituency; Comrade Bou Thang, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and National Assembly member from Preah Vihear Constituency; Comrade Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and National Assembly member from Kandal Constituency; female Comrade Men Sam-an, member of the Party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the Federation of Cambodian Trade Unions, and National Assembly member from Battambang Constituency; and Comrade Kong Sam-ol, member of the Party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and National Assembly member from Phnom Penh Constituency."

The announcer then describes the arrival of the Presidium members, saying: At 0745 the Presidium members mounted the ceremonial platform. Among them were Comrade Chea Sim, National Assembly chairman and member from Prey Veng Constituency; Comrade Mat Ly, National Assembly vice chairman and member from Kompong Cham Constituency; Comrade Nu Beng, National Assembly vice chairman, chairman of the National Assembly's Cultural and Social Affairs Commission, and National Assembly member from Ratanakiri Constituency; Comrade Men Chhan, chairman of the National Assembly's Economic, Planning, and Budgetary Commission, and National Assembly member from Kompong Cham Constituency; Comrade General Sin Song, vice chairman of the National Assembly's Legislative Commission and National Assembly member from Kompong Cham Constituency; and Comrade Kham Len, chairman of the National Assembly's Nationalities Commission and National Assembly member from Ratanakiri Constituency.

Chea Sim Opens Session

BK1408113191 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Speech by National Assembly Chairman Chea Sim at opening ceremony of the 21st regular session of the First National Assembly on 14 August—recorded]

[Text] In implementation of Article 49 of the Constitution, the National Assembly of our State of Cambodia opens its 21st regular session today to sum up and assess the activities of the Council of State, the Council of Ministers, the Supreme People's Court, and the Public

Prosecutor's Department and to examine the implementation of the Constitution [words indistinct] during the first half of 1991.

Strong with the experiences gained through the search to gain an in-depth understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of past undertakings, our National Assembly has the duty to set a course for the comprehensive executive activities during the second half of 1991 and the years to come.

Certainly, the significance and importance of this 21st session are closely linked to the overall situation of our country and also to the sacred aspirations and interests of our people who are passing through a new historically important stage of the resolute struggle to defend our national independence and sovereignty, prevent the recurrence of the danger from the past, and seek effective formulas and means aimed at bringing an early end to the war. This will come on the basis of realistic views which uphold the vital interests of the Cambodian people, national sovereignty, and the right to self-determination of the Cambodian people and on the basis of respect for the UN Charter and international laws on human rights as a means of ensuring the correctness, fairness, and impartiality of the political settlement.

Our National Assembly is extremely proud to see that the fundamental principles determined by its extraordinary session on 28 February 1991 have been unreservedly hailed, welcomed, and supported by the masses of our people throughout the country and have been transformed into driving waves of undertakings, bringing about new progressive activities replete with new qualities and effectiveness.

Outstanding, first of all, were the brilliant feats of our Armed Forces and people during the just-ended 1990-91 dry season which had inflicted a defeat on all attempts to reverse the Cambodian situation through military means. This has had vast repercussions on international opinion and on national as well as international public views; furthermore, this has created a new ambience favorable to the political settlement of the Cambodian problem.

It is true that the ambition to conduct retaliatory and aggressive attacks by the other side has not yet been fully eliminated, but our Armed Forces and people have displayed great resolve, courage, and determination, depriving all forces of any chance to win a military victory.

As a driving force for the observance of the voluntary cease-fire and the halt to foreign military aid, our people are resolute in opposing all forms of violations that are aimed at altering the balance of forces on the battlefield; at harming the security, social order, and happy existence of the people; or at spawning mutual mistrust.

The excellent situation on the battlefield has ensured the normal progress of the political and socioeconomic situation and has brought the prestige of the State of Cambodia to new heights. However, in a no-war no-peace situation in this country where there are still some acts that have caused the loss of people's lives and property as well as losses of state property, and because our national infrastructure remains backward because of the quasi total destruction by the danger from the past, and because at present we have to assume responsibility for everything by ourselves, there are many new difficult tests waiting for us to solve.

During the first half of 1991, our great national family has displayed a lofty sense of patriotism, stoically enduring hardship, sharing common burdens, and joining hands in overcoming all difficulties, be they large or small, in a spirit of responsibility for the destiny of our new regime and with a great sense of self-abnegation, tenacity, and resilience. As far as the sense of great national union and reconciliation is concerned, we have become even more united with firm confidence in our own strength. We have pooled our resources and joined hands to solve difficulties concerning our economy and livelihoods. These difficulties constitute the most acute problems of our society right now when the economic and humanitarian aid blockade continues to be implemented by some countries regardless of the detente in the international order and the progress made in the search for a solution to the Cambodian problem, progress that, more than anything else, has been made possible by the constructive stance of our State of Cambodia.

Although we find ourselves in such a situation, our Cambodian people note with satisfaction the growing commercial investment by many foreign companies that have been increasingly impressed by and alert to the fact that Cambodia is an important market capable of generating profits both at present and in the future.

One of the paths we have chosen in the economic field is mainly to build a market-oriented economy and to liberalize investments in the country and from abroad. This path is a correct choice made in accordance with the prevailing situation in Cambodia and the trend of the times where all countries are seeking to establish relations with each other on an equal footing and mutually beneficial basis, free from any political or ideological preconditions, to broaden all-around international cooperation and ensure lasting peace, security, and stability in the world. This path of liberalization toward international interrelationship embarked upon by the State of Cambodia winds its way alongside the promotion of freedoms, rights, honors, and guarantees for the legitimate interests of our people from all walks of life. Ours is an effort made with the specific objective of rapidly eliminating the poverty of our people, enhancing rural development, promoting the ethical values of our society, and raising the cultural capability and confidence of our people and youths in national reconstruction.

To serve societal development and meet the sacred demands of our people throughout the country, we need more schools, hospitals, factories, cultural buildings, roads, means of travel, irrigation networks, and modern technologies in all fields. Furthermore, we have no desire at all to receive arms, war materiel, and other means for war. Our people have an urgent need for rice and food as well as medicine and production means. Before anything else, we need to live in peace without the return of the danger from the past.

In this sense, our National Assembly would like to welcome the results of the meetings between the members of the Supreme National Council [SNC] and the cochairmen of the Paris conference, of the fruitful bilateral meeting between Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Samdech Sihanouk in Jakarta, and of the 24-26 June SNC session in Phatthaya, the Kingdom of Thailand, which concretely produced a 10-point outcome that has been used as a foundation for the functioning of the SNC as well as the raising of our national sovereignty on the international stage. Moreover, it has created new prospects for the process toward a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem.

Among the main issues that were agreed upon in principle, the question of implementing the voluntary cease-fire and the question of ceasing to accept foreign military aid from 24 June 1991 have played an important role in ending our self-inflicted hemorrhage that has been protracted for more than two decades.

Furthermore, our National Assembly highly appreciates the latest active contributions made by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, who has espoused the realistic view that there are only two hostile factions in Cambodia, showing that he has correctly grasped the reality in Cambodia. This, in addition to the results achieved at the informal SNC meeting in Beijing and the results of the meeting between Comrade Hun Sen and Samdech Sihanouk in Pyongyang, constitutes positive activities in the process of the search for peace, and a step toward realizing a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem.

In this sense, our National Assembly welcomes the nine-point results made at those meetings, particularly the election of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as chairman of the SNC and his announced resignation from all posts in the Cambodian Government and the Cambodian resistance, solemnly declaring that he will remain neutral forever.

Our National Assembly highly apreciates the outcome made in connection with the modalities of control on the voluntary cease-fire and the halt to foreign military aid. Moreover, our National Assembly would like to stress its welcome to a fact-finding mission that the UN secretary general will send to Cambodia in the near future to contribute toward the aforementioned objective.

At the same time, our National Assembly would like to express high interest in the creation of a working group to work alongside the UNHCR [UN High Commissioner for Refugees] in dealing with the repatriation of Cambodian refugees, and considers it an important part to operate in favor of the comprehensive political solution and national reconciliation and a major factor working to end the separation of more than 300,000 of our compatriots who are living in various camps inside the Kingdom of Thailand. With genuine goodwill, our National Assembly expresses its deepest desire to see this repatriation take place as soon as possible.

On the same occasion, our National Assembly would like to express its high appreciation to the PRC for receiving the delegation of the SNC members from the State of Cambodia and for according it a warm welcome when the delegation of our State of Cambodia extended its stay in Beijing. Our National Assembly also highly appreciates the good results of the first official visit of the delegation of our SNC members to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the agreement reached between Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Samdech Norodom Sihanouk concerning the creation of the Commission in Search of Aid for the Economic and Social Rehabilitation and Development in the State of Cambodia.

The National Assembly would like to express its firm belief that the sincere implementation of the cease-fire together with the efforts to consolidate the results achieved at the Phatthaya, Beijing, and Pyongyang forums will surely create favorable conditions for the forthcoming SNC session to be held in the Kingdom of Thailand.

Our National Assembly also highly appreciates the brilliant outcome of the official friendly visit of the high-ranking delegation of our National Assembly to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], a visit which has contributed to further enhancing the development, quality, and effectiveness of the all- around relations between the State of Cambodia and the LPDR in the current historic stage.

Also on this occasion, our National Assembly would like to welcome the increasing frequency of contacts between our National Assembly and the legislative bodies of France, Japan, the United States, the Federal Republic of Germany, and Finland, contacts which have produced positive results in our relations on both humanitarian and governmental bases. In particular, our National Assembly notes with satisfaction the excellent results of the talks with the leadership of the French legislature and representatives of the French Government, with the representatives of the Japanese Diet, and with the high-ranking personalities of the Kingdom of Thailand made during the informal visits to the French Republic, Japan, and the Kingdom of Thailand, visits which have rendered even closer the relations between the two peoples and states.

Dear members of the National Assembly, we are now launching a campaign to combat social ills, to promote the observance of the laws in society, and to encourage the sense of thrift and economy. The results made during the first half of 1991 show a new quality in societal control and economic management. However, there is also a need for all of us to make greater efforts so all levels and all sectors become even cleaner and more resolute in honestly serving the interests of the people.

On the occasion of this 21st session, besides hearing the reports of various institutions, our National Assembly will have ample time to discuss various issues that are confronting our society. All of us shall join hands and heads to examine and solve them and take concrete measures to overcome all obstacles and single-mindedly do anything to increase the confidence of the people in our new regime.

I firmly believe that, for the future destiny of the motherland, our National Assembly as a whole will provide precious ideas and really constructive new initiatives in support of the Council of Ministers in setting the course for socioeconomic development and development in all other fields to respond properly to the immediate as well as long-term interests and demands of our people and society.

Under the current difficult circumstances, only by putting our heads together to study and examine these problems and by joining hands to implement decisions can we get the best tool and means to propel our society onto the path of progress. It is with this view that I would like to declare open the 21st session of the National Assembly. I wish our National Assembly great success. [applause]

Defense, Social Situation Reported

BK1508051291 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] On the morning of the second day [15 August] of the first National Assembly's 21st session, members of the National Assembly listened attentively to bills on overland transport, people's police ranks, Cambodian People's Army [CPA] ranks, and retirement and disability benefits for CPA combatants.

The National Assembly members also listened to reports on the situation concerning the defense of political security and social order in the first half of 1991.

The frst National Assembly's 21st session adjourned at 1000 and will resume its work tomorrow morning.

Army Press Office Communique on Truce Violations

BK1408135791 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 14 Aug 91

["Press Communique on Unlimited Truce Violation" from the Army's press office; date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] Seizing the opportunity when our Cambodian People's Armed Forces have respected with patience the unlimited cease-fire, the polpotist and sonsannian factions have fomented all manner of provocations by firing artillery shells, shipping war equipment, and infiltrating some villages and communes on several occasions to plunder [words indistinct], causing destruction to our people's property and lives everyday.

As a matter of fact, between 1 and 11 August, they committed up to 16 violations, including 12 long-range artillery barrages with over 1,000 shells and four robberies in which one villager was killed, two wounded, and four taken away, a house burned, and some money stolen.

On the Kompong Thom Province front on 1 and 9 August, polpotist troops from the 802d and 785th armed units plundered our people in Baray, Prasat Sambo, and Sandan Districts, taking away 138,000 riels from the people. They also killed one and arrested two villagers.

On 6 August, 15 bandits from the sonsannian faction plundered our people's cattle, [words indistinct], and a bicycle in an area 15 km northeast of Svay Chek in Banteay Meanchey Province. Furthermore, between 1 and 8 August, they fired 230 shells of [words indistinct], DK- 82, and DK-85 guns on areas along Route 10 in Battambang Province.

Moreover, on 4 and 6 August, they fired 785 shells of 85-mm, 81-mm, 82-mm, DK-75, and DK-82 guns on an area 9 km east of Svay Chek and areas southeast and west of Bos Sbov in Banteay Meanchey Province.

In Kompong Thom Province on 11 August, they fired many artillery shells on areas east of the province, wounding two villagers and burning a house.

Those criminal activities have not only destroyed the mutual trust but also run counter to the already relaxed and improved situation where results were recently achieved in the search for a peaceful solution.

Commentary Urges Opposing Side To Stop Slander

BK1508091391 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Station commentary: "The Trick of Fishing in Troubled Waters by the Other Cambodian Side"]

[Text] The trend toward a political settlment of the Cambodian problem is irreversible. The final goal of the political solution is a general, free, and just election organized by the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC] and under the control of the United Nations. This is why the other Cambodian side has gradually started a campaign aimed at putting down the State of Cambodia's leadership and elevating those in its camp through the method of fishing in troubled waters.

These people have made efforts to point up bad points through exaggeration in order to confuse the Cambodian people and get the latter to cast doubt on the State of Cambodia's leadership, turn to these people's leaders instead, and think that the latters are good, correct, just, and 100 percent nationalist, and so on. In fact, these people have forgotten, or pretended to forget, a slogan which says: "Hearing a thousand times is not as good as seeing once; bad or good is not just on the lips but is reflected in the actual actions of an individual or a group of individuals." Likewise, everyone knows who has saved the Cambodian people throughout the country from the genocide and extermination of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan clique. Was it not the current State of Cambodia's leadership that rose against the traitorous clique, set up a front, and appealed to the Vietnamese volunteers troops to help save the country and people on 7 January 1979?

Without 7 January 1979, the day which gave a second birth to the lives of all Cambodians, we ask this question: What would have happened to the lives of the Cambodian people and the Cambodian race? While the Cambodian people were being starved, forced to work to exhaustion, separated from families, and taken in columns to be massacred at mass graves, where were those people who shout about being nationalists, heroes, and clean? Did they do anything for the cause of liberating the people? Our people were then drowning and were saved by the Vietnamese volunteer army.

However, the other Cambodian side has slandered those who have saved the people's lives, saying they are aggressors and oppressors. Worse still, the opposing side not only did not help arrest murderers who massacred the people, including its relatives, but also colluded with the criminals in a cover up as well. Is this these people's idea of being 100 percent nationalists?

Our people think that now the time is for national unification and reconciliation. One should not criticize, put down another, or point fingers at one another. Our people, who are Buddhist disciples and know right and wrong and good and bad, will not stand idle and let a number of people make slanderous statements to change white into black, and vice versa. Furthermore, the people have no desire to catch people at their own game; they only wish to make the position clear to certain people—those who only see others' faults and ignore their own.

Another ridiculous point is this group's blaming of the State of Cambodia's leadership, saying it has made our people poor and caused them to suffer. In fact, our people know, and international public opinion knows, what is the cause of our people's poverty and hardship. First of all, it has been caused by the Pol Pot regime, which destroyed almost every national and social infrastructure. The country and nation have had to start from scratch. While the people were struggling to overcome the consequences of the Pol Pot regime in seeking to revive the nation and society, the other Cambodian side, with the Pol Pot clique as the backbone, has waged an all-out destructive war, forcing our people to spend a large amount of capital and intellect to defend national and social gains and the people's lives and property.

For more than 12 years, the entire country and nation have been in a state of war and peace at the same time; the war is that waged by the other Cambodian side with the aim of bringing back the danger from the past to Cambodia. This is why, despite all the efforts of the State of Cambodia's party and government, developing the country and improving the people's living standards have proven very difficult. On top of this, the other Cambodian side has made efforts to raise the issue of the so-called aggression by Vietnam against Cambodia to get the international community to impose economic sanctions against the new regime. Humanitarian organizations have noted that this is punishing the poor.

This is why the State of Cambodia's party and government have tried to find every means to make great concessions to the other Cambodian side aimed at ending the civil war in Cambodia, bringing peace and security to our people, country, and nation, and pooling intellectual and other resources to develop the motherland. However, for more than three years, negotiations to settle the Cambodian problem have been deadlocked because of the other Cambodian side's lack of goodwill and excessive ambition. In other words, this side has attempted to use negotiations to topple the State of Cambodia when these people have failed to do this in their concerted military efforts over more than 12 years. Therefore, the civil war in Cambodia has dragged on until 24 June, when warring Cambodian parties accepted a voluntary and unlimited cease-fire and agreed to stop receiving foreign military aid.

Therefore, our people would like to remind the other Cambodian side to stop playing this game. Our people will judge good and bad through ballots in the general, free, and just election in Cambodia organized by the SNC and supervised by the United Nations.

Heng Samrin Confers Medal on Bulgarian Envoy

*BK1408121791 Phnom Penh SPK in English
1112 GMT 14 Aug 91*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK August 14—President Heng Samrin conferred the "Labour Order" (second class) in Phnom Penh Monday on Bulgarian ambassador to Cambodia, Gancho Ganchev.

The conferment was made in recognition of his contribution to the consolidation and development of the friendship, solidarity and cooperation between the Cambodian and Bulgarian peoples.

After briefing the out-going Bulgarian diplomat on the process of political solution of the Cambodian issue, President Heng Samrin voiced support for the economic reform in Bulgaria. He also thanked the Bulgarian Government for its moral support and assistance to the Cambodian people's revival.

Gancho Ganchev said he is very pleased to receive the distinction, which he said, reflected the Cambodian party and state's appreciation of his mission in the consolidation of the relations between the two counries. He said during his three-year mission here he clearly understood the reality in Cambodia and witnessed the Cambodian people's struggle for peace.

Relations Discussed

BK1508135291 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1114 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 15 Aug (SPK)—Heng Samrin, chairman of the Council of State of the State of Cambodia, expressed thanks on behalf of the Cambodian party, government, and people to the party, government, and people of Bulgaria for their sustained support to the just cause of the Cambodian people.

When receiving Bulgarian Ambassador to Cambodia Gancho Kristoph Ganchev in Phnom Penh on 12 August, Heng Samrin highly valued the efforts of the Bulgarian diplomat who, during his mission to Cambodia, has contributed greatly to the consolidation and development of the relations between the two countries and peoples.

For his part, Gancho Kristoph Ganchev, who came to take leave of the president, highly appreciated the efforts of the Cambodian Government and people in the search for a political solution through national reconciliation. He said he was convinced that the Cambodian people will soon live in peace and development and enjoy a happy future.

"The Bulgarian Government and people will continue to support the Cambodian people and will do their best to further strengthen the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries," stressed Gancho Kristoph Ganchev.

Hun Sen Receives Bulgarian Envoy

BK1508140091 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1122 GMT 15 aug 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 15 Aug (SPK)—Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia, received in Phnom Penh on 13 August Gancho Kristoph Ganchev, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Bulgaria to Cambodia, who came to take leave of the chairman at the end of his term.

Mr. Gancho stressed that the time-honored relations of friendship and cooperation between Cambodia and Bulgaria are further developing despite changes in the two countries.

Concerning the Cambodian problem, the Bulgarian diplomat affirmed the support of the Bulgarian Government and people for the national reconciliation policy of Cambodia and hoped that peace would be restored in the country.

Chairman Hun Sen appreciated the efforts made by the Bulgarian ambassador in developing the relations of cooperation between the two countries.

He expressed gratitude to the Bulgarian Government for supporting Cambodia's national reconciliation.

Sihanouk Thanks UN Leader for Message

BK1508023391 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 14 Aug 91

["Recent" message from "Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the Cambodian Supreme National Council" to UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar—read by announcer]

[Text] Your Excellency Secretary General:

I would like to express profound and heartfelt thanks for your noble message dated 9 August 1991 and your congratulations on my appointment as chairman of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC].

The historic success of the SNC in Phatthaya on 24, 25 and 26 June 1991, and in Beijing on 16 and 17 July 1991—a success for the cause of peace in Cambodia—is also yours because for many years you have been making noble and kind efforts for this just cause to ensure that Cambodia returns to normalcy with independence and freedom.

Concerning your dispatch of a mission led by General Timothy Dibuama to Cambodia, the leaders of the four Cambodian parties—SNC members—have already taken measures in Cambodia to facilitate the mission of His Excellency Dibuama and his UN colleagues to the maximum. They would be well received and service would be provided wherever they go.

I would like to express eternal thanks to Your Excellency for getting the United Nations to adopt Cambodia's new flag and for examining the possibility of accrediting a permanent mission to the SNC in Phnom Penh.

Please accept my high consideration.

[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the SNC.

VONADK: SRV Troops, Arms Sent to Kampot

BK1408015291 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 13 Aug 91

[Text] The national council in Angkor Chey District of Kampot Province reported that on 25 July 1991, the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors sent 350 fresh Vietnamese troops and crates of weapons, including 80-mm mortars, DK-82's, and 12.8-mm guns, and ammunition to this district. These weapons and ammunition in tightly sealed crates have been hid underground at the Angkor Chey mountain in Angkor Chey Commune in this district.

They have banned our people from going near the one-kilometer perimeter of this area. Anyone daring to go near would be shot dead.

Immediately after getting out of the trucks, 80 of these 350 Vietnamese troops fled back to Vietnam.

Indonesia

Suharto Urges OPEC To Increase Oil Prices

BK1008091291 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0813 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Jakarta, Aug 10 (OANA-ANTARA)—President Suharto asked Mines and Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita here Saturday to hold discussions with OPEC oil ministers so that the commodity's bench price of 21 U.S. dollars/barrel could be reached soon.

After reporting to the president about the construction of the train for LNG [liquefied natural gas] project in Bontang (East Kalimantan), Ginanjar told newsmen that in the international market, oil price in August is recorded at 19 U.S. dollars/barrel on the average. He said if the bench price of 21 U.S. dollars/barrel cannot be reached in the coming winter, the price situation in the coming seasons will be "more difficult."

In the last few months, oil price has continued to be on the increase although the increase itself is relatively small, between 30 to 50 cents/barrel/month only. He said it is mainly caused by the high output of OPEC members.

According to Ginanjar, when performing hajj pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia two months ago, President Suharto asked King Fahd to help increasing the price of oil.

Saudi Arabia is the largest oil producer in OPEC, he said adding that other OPEC members like Iran and Nigeria are also expected to ask the country to support the endeavor to reach the bench price.

On the importance of controlling OPEC oil production within the context of reaching the bench price, he said when Iraq and Kuwait had not been able to export their oil, the production level of 11 OPEC member countries already exceeded the ceiling of 22.3 million barrels per day (bpd).

Ginanjar said output reduction should be carried out immediately because the UN at present is considering the possibility of allowing Iraq to export some of its oil production to buy medications and food.

The UN so far still imposes trade embargo against Iraq following the country's invasion to Kuwait in August 1990.

Ginanjar said, it is estimated that Iraq for a temporary period will be allowed to export 300,000 to 400,000 barrel of oil per day, while Kuwait will export around 300,000 per day.

The minister said he reported as well to the president the developments in the construction of several power plants in Indonesia to solve the problem of electricity scarcity. In March next year, the gas power plant in Gresik will be officially opened. The plant will have the capacity to generate 900 megawatt of electricity .

He said in view of the very high demand of electricity, the government will allow private and foreign companies to take part in the construction of power plants. In the Pelita VI (sixth five year development plan, 1994-1999) the provision of electricity on the island of Java alone will need funds of no less than 20 billion U.S. dollars. However, he said, the private and foreign companies will only be allowed to build gas or coal-powered plants, not fuel-powered ones.

Suharto Meets With Yemeni Presidential Envoy

BK1208120891 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] The Republic of Yemen hopes that Indonesia will support the candidacy of the Yemeni permanent representative to the United Nations for the next chairmanship of the UN General Assembly. Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih expressed the hope in a letter, which was conveyed by Yemeni Expatriate Affairs Minister Salih Munassir to President Suharto at Merdeka Palace this morning.

The Yemeni expatriate affairs minister told newsmen after meeting the head of state that his government expressed its profound respect to President Suharto for the latter's willingness to exchange views on economic and political matters. He said that long-standing relations between the Yemeni and Indonesian peoples would be further strengthened in the future. For this reason, the Republic of Yemen wanted to learn from the Indonesian Government and people how to successfully implement development programs.

Trade Minster Holds Talks With Iranian Minster

BK1208120691 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1108 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Jakarta, Aug 12 (OANA-ANTARA) - Indonesia's exports to Iran had markedly increased after the two countries signed an agreement on counter trade in 1989, Trade Minister Arifin Siregar told newsmen on Monday.

Siregar said that despite export increase, bilateral trade had always been in Iran's favour. Up to the end of July 1991, Indonesia's exports to Iran were recorded at 102.5 million U.S. dollars while its imports stood at 231.7 million U.S. dollars.

Citing that Indonesia's trade deficit with the Teheran Government in fiscal 1989/90 was 557 million U.S. dollars, Siregar said that the two countries were trying to improve the two-way trade through a counter-purchase agreement.

In fiscal 1989/90, Indonesian exports to Iran reached 54.5 million U.S. dollars against imports of 611.4 million.

Siregar made this statement after he had talks with visiting Iranian minister of post and telecommunications, Mohammad Gharazi.

Meanwhile, the Indonesian trade minister also said that the government had no intention to review its policy on the sales of cloves by farmers to BPPC, a buffer stock and marketing agency for cloves.

The Trade Ministry had earlier issued a regulation that assigns BPPC to buy cloves from growers grouped in the village cooperatives unit (KUD) with prices set at between 7,000 rupiah to 8,500 rupiah.

Implementation of the regulation has created sluggish market and a large number of clove growers have complained that neither BPPC nor the KUD buy cloves from them at prices already set by the government.

"The government will not review the regulation regarding the country's clove sales, but will only improve the system of its implementation," Siregar said.

Minister on Efforts To Promote USSR Trade

BK1208115391 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1112 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Jakarta, Aug 12 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesian Junior Minister of Trade J. Sudrajat Jiwandono said here on Monday that trade relations between Indonesia and the Soviet Union had not yet reflected the potentials of the two states even though they had carried out bilateral trade since March 1974.

"Therefore, mutual efforts and exchange of information carried out so far are expected to encourage and step up the trade ties between the two countries," the minister said in his address to a two-day seminar on "Trade With the Soviet Union."

According to the minister, the volume of exports and imports of Indonesia and the Soviet Union has not yet reached billions of dollars, recording only about 100 to 150 million U.S. dollars.

With a population of 180 million and 286 million respectively, Indonesia and the Soviet Union are potential markets for their products.

He said that Indonesia's non-oil/gas exports to the Soviet Union now tend to increase. In 1985, its non-oil/gas exports to the Soviet Union stood at 77.9 million U.S. dollars. It increased to 99.8 million U.S. dollars in 1989, 80.9 million U.S. dollars in 1990 and up to April this year it reached 15.5 million U.S. dollars.

On the other hand, Indonesia's non-oil/gas imports from the Soviet Union also showed an increasing trend.

The bilateral trade between the two countries had from 1979 to 1990 been in favour of Indonesia except that in 1982 and 1988, the minister said.

Sudrajat said that Indonesia's imports from that country stood at 3.4 million U.S. dollars in 1985, 50.8 million U.S. dollars in 1989, 53.4 million U.S. dollars in 1990, and 12.5 million us dollars up to April this year.

He said that the Indonesian Government would continue to create favourable business climate for state companies, private firms, and cooperatives in order to make them able to compete at home and abroad.

The junior minister said that even though businesses in the Soviet Union are granted freedom in making trade contacts with their Indonesian partners, the final decision would be made by the government, which constitutes an obstacle for Indonesian businessmen.

"In the Soviet Union, the final decision still needs government's interference," the minister added. Besides, the minister said, the Soviet Union has not enough foreign exchange to buy foreign goods and still applies a tight foreign exchange control system.

The seminar, which was aimed at studying market opportunities, was attended by 42 participants from exporters, importers, banking, insurance companies, and government officials.

General on Inclusion of Opposition in Government

BK1508064791 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 9 Aug 91 p 1

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—An army general wants politicians from non-government parties to be included in the next cabinet to be set up in 1993.

Lt. Gen Harsudiono Hartas, chief of staff of the social and political affairs of the Armed Forces (ABRI), said on Wednesday the inclusion of such politicians aimed at eliminating charges that Indonesia's was a government ruled by Golkar [Functional Group] only.

Since 1978, cabinet members have been from Golkar only, even though the country's laws do not say that losing parties cannot be represented in the cabinet.

Speaking to participants at a seminar organized by the Association of Indonesian Political Scientists (AIPI) at the University of Indonesia's Depok campus, Hartas said PPP (United Development Party) and PDI (Indonesian Democratic Party) should guarantee that their members in the cabinet no longer functioned as agents of the organizations.

"The ministers no longer belong to the political parties. They belong to the nation," Hartas said.

Hartas was reading a paper entitled "Social and Political Roles of ABRI in the Improvement of Legislative Functions in Indonesia". About 200 participants attended the two-day seminar which was opened by the rector of the University of Indonesia, Dr. Suyudi, on Wednesday.

He said current social and political condition differed from the one under President Sukarno. Sukarno, who handed over power to Suharto in 1967 after serving as president for 22 years, included leaders from various political parties in his cabinet.

But cabinet ministers struggled only for the interests of their party, Hartas said.

"Now that all political parties have only one common ideological basis, it is high time to open door as wide as possible for non-Golkar parties to join the cabinet," he said.

Speaking to reporters later he explained constraints that had caused President Suharto not to include PPP and PDI leaders in his cabinet.

"We should admit that the main constraint is that we still have no common stand in the implementation of Pancasila. There are still 'remnants' of non-Pancasila ideologies. I don't want to mention the parties."

The parties, he said, should introduce political openness and be honest in implementing Pancasila.

"This means leaders of the party cannot be included in the cabinet if they do not discard their old attitudes. People would say 'Oh, Mr. So and So still hasn't changed. He may sabotage our programs if he is made a cabinet minister," Hartas said.

Hartas said the rulings of the DPR (the House of Representatives) should be improved to make it more effective.

"I think the DPR should review the rulings to find out whether they can be implemented. There is a clause in the rulings that at least two factions and 20 members support the implementation of the 'initiative right' of DPR," he said.

The initiative right is DRP's right to produce a bill which should be approved by the President.

Provinces Defy Government Ruling on Lottery

BK1308031191 Hong Kong AFP in English 0140 GMT 13 Aug 91

[Reported by Endy Bayuni]

[Text] Jakarta, Aug 13 (AFP)—Several provincial administrations in Indonesia in a rare act of defiance have rejected a central government ruling on a highly controversial state-sponsored lottery which they say hurts the poor.

At least six of Indonesia's 27 provinces, citing strong local opposition, have said they will not allow ticket sales for nine additional draws during the rest of the year which the government recently allowed on top of the weekly ones.

The lottery, dubbed the Philantrophic Donation With Prizes (SDSB), has long been opposed by many, mainly because of its negative effects on the poor, the main buyers of lottery tickets, and because it was draining funds away from the rural economy.

Moslem groups opposed the scheme saying that the lottery was a form of gambling, which has been outlawed since 1981.

The government has insisted that SDSB had nothing to do with gambling but with a general election coming next year, the stakes have become too high for many provincial governments to ignore the objections, analysts say.

"This is truly the aspiration of the people. They have voted against the extra draws, and if possible, the entire scheme," the daily KOMPAS quoted South Kalimantan Governor H.M said as saying.

East and Central Java, South Sulawesi, Central Kalimantan and West Sumatra are all against the lottery and have cited opposition by local legislative councils and chapters of the moslem scholars council to back their position.

East Timor and Aceh provinces have also objected to the extra draws. SDSB is banned in these two poorest provinces, but the authorities said large numbers of tickets were still sold illegally there.

SDSB coupons are available in 50 U.S. cents, 2.50 dollars and 7.50 dollars equivalent denominations offering prizes of up to one billion rupiah (500,000 dollars) each week.

The organisers net at least 10 million dollars in sales each week, according to one estimate.

Some of the money goes to the government's sports and natural disaster funds and the rest to the private operators.

The latest SDSB controversy puts to the test how much real autonomy governors, who are appointed by the president and are responsible to the home minister, have in running their provinces, and whether or not the local legislative councils have any real power at all, analysts say.

Governor Yogie Memet of West Java, where the legislative council has voted against the additional SDSB draws, said he was personally against any form of gambling. "But as an apparatus of the government, I have to implement the rules."

Social Affairs Minister Haryati Subadio, who oversees the SDSB, sent out letters last month to the governors informing them of the extra draws. She later went to see President Suharto for support when some governors began to object.

Her reason for upping the frequency of draws gave her critics additional ammunition.

Subadio said the SDSB organizers unexpectedly had to pay out 150 billion rupiah (77 million dollars) to the lottery winners in one week last month and they should therefore be given the chance to recover some of the money.

"If they lost money, they should close it," said John Naro, a leader of the moslem-backed United Development Party (PPP), the second largest group in parliament after the government's Golkar Party.

PPP used the issue of SDSB, then called porkas, to attack the government at the last election campaign in 1987 and is bound to do it again next year given the lottery's growing unpopularity among moslems.

The government is showing a more open attitude on the issue, prompting some to hope that the lottery may be scrapped before the May polls.

Subadio told her critics that the government was willing to consider alternative schemes to raise funds to finance the development of national sports and to contribute to a national disaster fund.

The SDSB contributes some 67 million dollars each year to the sports fun Phich has been used to finance live broadcasts of many international sports events.

Relief Supplies for PRC Disaster Victims

BK1408051891 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Excerpt] Indonesia's relief supplies for natural disaster victims in China left Halim Perdanakusuma Airport at 0400 West Indonesian Time and will arrive in Shanghai at about 1400 West Indonesian Time. Hartono, acting secretary general of the Department of Foreign Affairs, said in a delivery ceremony that the relief supplies worth $100,000 comprised medicine, food, and blankets. [passage omitted]

Laos

Phoumi Vongvichit Receives Bush's Special Envoy

BK1408132091 Vientiane KPL in English 0916 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] Vientiane, August 14 (KPL)—Acting President of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic] Phoumi Vongvichit today morning received at his office special advisor to President Bush of the United States of America, Mr Sichan Siv.

Mr. Sichan Siv, on the occasion, handed to Mr. Phoumi Vongvichit a message from President Bush appreciating Lao leaders for their efforts to promote Lao-American cooperation.

In addition, he informed the Lao acting president of the purpose of his visit to Laos, which is to study current political and economic developments in Laos, in a hope to contribute to promoting mutual understanding and relationship between the United States of Amrica and the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Phoumi Vongvichit accepted the message with thanks and then conveyed through Sichan Siv his thanks and best regards to the U.S. President.

Also yesterday the special advisor to the U.S. President paid a visit to Lao Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut.

The U.S. President's special advisor arrived here on August 9 and is leaving on August 14.

Phoun Sipaseut To Attend Thai-Lao Meeting

BK1408160791 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] At the invitation of His Excellency [H.E.] Asa Sarasin, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Thailand and chairman of the Thai-Lao Cooperation Committee, H.E. Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, foreign affairs minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and chairman of the Lao-Thai Cooperation Committee, will lead a delegation to pay a visit to Bangkok soon to attend the first meeting of the Lao-Thai and Thai-Lao Cooperation Committees scheduled to be held in the Kingdom of Thailand in the near future. At the meeting, the two sides will hold consultations on setting up a cooperation committee for maintaining security along the Lao-Thai border. It will also review the outcome of the mutual cooperation in various fields in the past and discuss cooperation plans and projects between the two countries in the future.

Phoun Sipaseut Greets SRV Foreign Minister

BK1508134891 Vientiane KPL in English 0918 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Vientiane, August 15 (KPL)—Mr. Phoun Sipaseut, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister of the Lao PDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic], on August 12 sent a telegram of congratulations to Mr. Nguyen Manh Cam, new foreign minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The Lao foreign minister, in his telegram, expressed warm congratulations and wishes to his Vietnamese counterpart.

Mr. Phoun Sipaseut also expressed his conviction that with his rich experience, the new Vietnamese minister would fulfill the significant and heavy tasks assigned by the party and state of Vietnam to him, contributing to the cause of safeguarding peace, security and cooperation in the region and the world.

He still believed that the traditional fraternal ties, special solidarity and all-round cooperation between the peoples of Laos and Vietnam especially the two Foreign Ministries, would be developed and fruitful.

Kaysone Phomvihan Congratulates SRV Chairman

BK1408132691 Vientiane KPL in English 0903 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] Vientiane, August 1 (KPL)—Chairman Kaysone Phomvihan of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, on August 12 sent a telegram of greetings to the newly elected chairman of the Council of Ministers [CM] of the Socialist Republic of Vietam, Mr. Vo Van Kiet.

The telegram reads:

"Your election to the chairmanship of SRV's CM by the Vienamese National Assembly demonstrates the trust of the party, state, and people of Vietnam in you in the national management and administration. We are convinced that under the light of the resolution of the eighth congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam, you and other leaders of Vietnam will drag the country out of the socioeconomic hardship to progress and prosperity."

Mr. Kaysone Phomvihan also wished the friendship, special solidarity and all-round cooperation between Laos and Vietnam consolidated and flourished.

Kaysone Phomvihan Greets Cuba's Castro

BK1508134691 Vientiane KPL in English 0944 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Vientiane, August 15 (KPL)—President Kaysone Phomvihan of the Central Committee [CC] of the Lao People's Rovolutionary Party [LPRP], on August 12 sent a birthday message to Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba on his 65th anniversary.

In the telegram, the LPPR CC president wished the Cuban leader good health and success in the cause of the national construction of Cuba for the interest and prosperity of the fraternal Cuban people.

Mr. Kaysone Phomvihan stressed that the fraternal friendship, the solidarity and the cooperation between the parties, states and peoples of Laos and Cuba would be strengthened and developed.

Front President Meets Visiting Thai Writers

BK1308104691 Vientiane KPL in English 0943 GMT 13 Aug 91

[Text] Vientiane, August 13 (KPL)—Mr. Phoumi Vongvichit, in his capacity as the president of the Lao Front for National Construction CC [Central Committee], on August 12, granted an audience to the visiting delegation of Thai Northeastern Association of Writers led by its president Mr. Somkhit Singsong.

The Lao front's president warmly welcomed the visit of the Thai writers to Laos. He talked about the longstanding relations between the two neighbours who share similar tradition including language-spoken and written. The exchange of views between the Lao front's president and his guests proceeded in an atmosphere of good understanding and cordiality.

The delegation of Thai northeastern writers is scheduled to visit Laos from August 9 to 15.

Hungary Envoy Bids Farewell to Acting President

BK1308104891 Vientiane KPL in English 0922 GMT 13 Aug 91

[Text] Vientiane, August 13 (KPL)—Acting President Mr. Phoumi Vongvichit yesterday morning granted here at the Presidential Palace an audience to the outgoing ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Hungary to Laos Mr. Alfred Almasi.

On this occasion, the Lao acting president congratulated the Hungarian ambassador over his fulfilment of his mission in Laos and wished him success in his new mission.

Mr. Alfred Almasi assumed the post here on August 29, 1988.

Philippines

Taiwanese Legislators Arrive in Manila

HK1508091491 Hong Kong AFP in English 0905 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Manila, Aug 15 (AFP)—Four members of Taiwan's Legislative Yuan arrived here Thursday for talks with Philippine senators, just a few days before the senators meet a legislative delegation from China, official sources said.

The Taiwan representative office here confirmed that the vice-president of the Legislative Yuan, Liu Sung-fan, was heading the delegation. However there was no confirmation of reports that the four would be meeting with Senate President Jovito Salonga and other senators.

Spokesmen for Senator Joseph Estrada confirmed that he had met the four legislators at the airport and that the group would later meet with other senators.

Senate spokesmen said Salonga and other senators were due to meet on August 20 with a six-member delegation from the foreign affairs committee of China's National People's Congress, headed by the committee's vice-chairman, Fu Hao.

Beijing has consistently protested any meetings between Philippine and Taiwan officials, saying this violates Manila's policy of recognizing Beijing as the sole government of all China.

The Chinese Embassy, which had voiced strong objections to the visit of top Philippine government officials to Taiwan earlier this month, could not be contacted for comment on the Taiwan delegation's visit here.

Defense Secretary Comments on Alleged Coup Plan

Rules Out U.S. Involvement

HK1508033991 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] Defense Secretary Renato de Villa strongly said today that the United States has no involvement in the reported plan to launch a coup d'etat. According to De Villa, if there ever is a plan like this, it will not succeed. Here is Tanny Rodriguez with the details:

[Begin recording] De Villa said that in addition to the fact that there are only several rebel soldiers left at large, including ultra-rightist leader former Colonel Gregorio Honasan, they would also find it hard to convince additional supporters from the military ranks because the Armed Forces are now stable.

Meanwhile, De Villa ordered Philippine National Police Chief General Nazareno to coordinate with Laguna Provincial Superintendent Virtous Gil. Earlier, Gil ordered the setting up of checkpoints on the stretch of roads and highways in Laguna due to intelligence reports he received that Honasan's forces from Southern Luzon and the Bicol region plan to launch attacks on military camps, radio and television stations in Metro Manila this week. [end recording]

Soldiers Recruiting for Coup

HK1508044591 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] Defense Secretary Renato de Villa belittled the rebel soldiers' capability to launch a new coup d'etat against the government. De Villa said there are only a handful of the rebel forces left to launch a new attempt against the present administration, adding that the Armed Forces are now stable. According to De Villa, the rebel soldiers will only face difficulty in persuading other armed forces groups to join them in their coup d'etat plan because the government soldiers are more united now in performing their duties under the Constitution.

Meanwhile, the secretary said that the Armed Forces of the Philippines will identify the new leaders of the soldiers and communist rebels who have replaced those arrested by government forces. He admitted that there are still leaders of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People who are actively recruiting members and finding ways to successfully launch the new attempt against the government.

Reportage of Bases Issue Discussion Continues

Envoy to U.S. Remarks

HK1508041791 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 15 Aug 91 pp 1, 6

[By reporter Jose G. Ebro]

[Text] The Philippine Senate's failure to ratify the Philippine-American Cooperation Treaty [PACT] could make it the odd man out in the region, envoy to Washington Emmanuel Pelaez warned yesterday as he cautioned prudence over the issue of the U.S. military presence here.

"The fact of the matter," he pointed out, in an interview with reporters, "is tht the sentiment of our friends in the region, particularly Japan, is that they want the U.S. military presence here."

"It's their perception that the presence of the U.S. is necessary and that's very important especially with respect to investment and business," Mr. Pelaez said.

While he believed that the Philippines could surmount difficulties brought about by a U.S. withdrawal "at this particular time, it is more prudent to have more friends than less enemies."

If the Senate rejects PACT, "the first thing the Americans would feel is that we are distancing ourselves from them," Mr. Pelaez said, "particularly at a time when they are offering us a better position in our relations with the U.S. not to speak of the aid that we are getting from the U.S. its support for us in the Paris Club and in our relations with Japan and the other countries."

The envoy, who was himself involved in previous reviews of the 1947 Military Bases Agreement (MBA), said the Philippines is getting a much better deal this time. "I'm satisfied that all those provisions of the 1947 MBA which we fought as violative of our sovereignty have been cured," he said, citing the "vigilance of Defense undersecretary Feliciano Gacis in this regard."

In the Senate, some of those who signified opposition to PACT could be softening, observers said.

For one, Senator Ernesto Herrera could be casting a pro vote because of US agreement to renegotiate the Base Labor Agreement [BLA] within 90 days of PACT's entry into force and in the light of US commitment to assist base employees displaced by a withdrawal from Clark.

Along with these, the DFA [Department of Foreign Affairs] said, "the US has made clear that, as a matter of practice, it will not assert the defense of 'sovereign immunity' in labor cases filed by Filipino workers." This means the US military authorities can be sued for violations of the Labor Code.

The DFA had originally resisted the inclusion of a BLA under PACT as the present one has until 1993 to run.

According to the department, the US Government has also agreed to the renegotiation of current arrangements on customs, immigration and quarantine requirement.

New Envoy

Meanwhile, new U.S. envoy Frank Wisner arrives this evening and will have to hit the ground running.

"He's got a lot of work cut out for him...he'll try to present his credentials as soon as possible," a senior embassy official told BUSINESS WORLD.

While the U.S. Embassy wants U.S. Vice-President Danforth Quayle to sign the Philippine-American Cooperation Treaty, "because of the time constraints, Mr. Wisner may have to do," he said, expressing some concern that "(Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul) Manglapus...might not like that."

The PACT signing could take place by the middle of next week, diplomatic sources said.

The finer points of the cultural and educational provisions of PACT were nailed down yesterday during a "line by line" review of the agreement by U.S. and Philippine technical panels in a meeting at the Department of Foreign Affairs yesterday.

The U.S. side letter on the financial package is still being awaited.

Defense Capability

In a related development, the Defense Department and Armed Forces yesterday asked the Senate to ratify the new RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. bases agreement as it cited the negative effects of rejection on the military's external defense capability.

After about an hour of closed-door briefing with Defense and military officials, Senator Mamintal A. J. Tamano, chairman of the oversight subcommittee on intelligence, said the general sentiment was that the country's sovereignty will be greatly challenged without U.S. assistance.

He said the Spratly Islands conflict was among the items raised by the military officials, adding that external defense is now being given importance with the waning threats from the Leftist insurgency, ultra-Rightists and the Moro National Liberation Front.

Sen. Tamano said the military immediately needs a supplemental appropriation of P [peso] 7.5 to continue its modernization program.

Gen. Lisandro C. Abadia, Armed Forces chief, cautioned that all of the military's service command will be affected with $100 million in military funding, $3 million in training and $150 million in excess defense articles.

He said the Air Force will lose its effectiveness by 1995 since 70% of its assets are supported by the U.S. the Navy will lose capital assets and the Army will be "severely immobilized."

Further on Comments

HK1508044491 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] Relations with Japan and other ASEAN countries may be affected if the Senate does not ratify the new bases treaty. This was firmly stated by Philippine Ambassador to Washington Emanuel Pelaez. Pelaez disclosed that the Japanese Government is in favor of the continued stay of the U.S. bases in the Philippines, as are the other countries in Asia. Pelaez said there is a great possibility that other countries would detach themselves from the Philippines if the U.S. bases are removed, because they are also relying on the U.S. facilities for the region's security. Pelaez stressed the importance of the U.S. bases in relation to Philippine economic progress and growth of foreign investments.

Drilon Comments on Signing

HK1508104291 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon announced today that the new bases treaty will be signed in the next two days by the Philippines and the United States.

The agreement allows a 10-year extension for the U.S. forces at Subic Naval Base. Drilon said that only a few matters are left to be considered before the treaty is finally signed and eventually submitted to the Senate for ratification.

Prior to this, President Aquino stressed that the Philippines will insist on the Americans recognizing the new military bases agreement as a treaty and not just as an executive agreement. Here is President Aquino's statement as read by Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III.

[Begin Gomez recording in English] Our Constitution is rather precise in stating that a treaty duly concurred with by the Senate be recognized as a treaty by the other contracting party. Secretary Manglapus states that there is U.S. jurisprudence that governs this matter and is acceptable under international law. [end recording]

Senator Aquino Rejects Appeal

HK1508044291 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 15 Aug 91 pp 1, 2

[By Jose Macaspac III, Mariquit Almario, and Arthur I. Bariuad]

[Text] Presidential brother-in-law Senator Agapito "Butz" Aquino yesterday said the country's interests were more important than his ties with Mrs. Aquino as he unequivocably rejected the proposed bases agreement between the Philippines and the United States.

In a privilege speech, he also criticized influential businessmen for using their vast resources in trying to pressure the predominantly anti-bases Senate into ratifying the controversial treaty.

Outside the Senate, efforts to pressure anti-bases senators into changing their minds continued to heighten. Ambassador to Washington Emmanuel Pelaez, defense and military officials, business organizations, and government financial experts warned of grave consequences if the treaty is rejected.

Aquino said he was forced to come out in the open and proclaim his anti-bases stand even if it would anger Mrs. Aquino because "there had been veiled threats and warnings of another military coup as well as economic blackmail and other pressures being imposed on the Senate."

A majority of the senators have made known their anti-bases position and vowed to reject the treaty.

Mrs. Aquino has responded by calling each senator to "one-one- one" meetings in Malacanang in a last-ditch effort to save the treaty from an impending rejection in the chamber.

Except for a few, the senators have thus turned down the President's request.

"I love my country more than I love my President," the senator said during interpellation by Senator Ernesto Maceda who asked him his reasons for choosing to cut his close and advantageous ties with Malacanang.

Aquino added he was prepared to cross the President if this meant the fulfillment of the national longing for independence, democrac, social justice and peace.

Aquino's surprise move bolstered the campaign of anti-bases senators to have the treaty rejected by Senate.

It also doused speculations that Mrs. Aquino's lobbying could sway the senators into ratifying the treaty.

At least 16 senators, in a staw vote conducted by Senate President Jovito Salonga, said they were against the treaty, indicating that the bases treaty would be junked by the chamber.

In his speech, Aquino also debunked claims that the Philippines stood to lose its special relations with the U.S. if the bases were removed.

On the contrary, he said, the relations had made the country dependent on a foreign power and caused the country's underdevelopment.

"The net effect of this special relations is the eternal postponement of our industrialization, the depletion of our resources and international currency reserves and the exploitation of Filipino labor," he said.

On the supposed material benefits that the country would receive if it allows a prolonged stay of the U.S. in the bases, Aquino said: "No amount of bases money can take the place of sovereignty, independence and the well-being of the futujre generations of Filipinos."

Also, he said, the offered funds were mere instruments for the promotion of American, not Philippine interests.

He said there was no assurance that the U.S. government would live up to its commitment as seen in the huge shortfall in the "bases rental" under the Manglapus-Shultz agreement.

Pelaez meanwhile said the Philippines stood to be isolated in the international community if the new security agreement allowing the U.S. continued use of the installations was rejected.

Pelaez claimed that the non-ratification of the bases accord by the Senate would send signals to countries in the region, especially Manila's regional allies and trade partners that it was "distancing" itself from the predominant "sentiment" in favor of continued U.S. military presence in the country.

According to Pelaez, "our friends particularly Japan and the people in the region are in favor of our signing some kind of treaty." He singled out Japan, which he said "has made known to us that they want the U.S. military presence here."

Japan, Singapore and Thailand have openly endorsed the continued presence here of the U.S. to preserve the region's stability and sustain its robust economic growth. They fear that the withdrawal of U.S. in the Philippines would create a vacuum that other regional poers would be impelled to fill.

"Although Pelaez said the country could emerge out from its economic woes "with or without the presence of U.S. bases," he stressed that "at this particular time it's more prudent to have more friends than less friends," who will help the government towards economic development.

Calling the new bases agreement a "better deal," Pelaez said he was satisfied that "all those provisions of the 1947 military bases agreement which were violative of our sovereignty have been cured."

Frank G. Wisner, newly-designated U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines will arrive late tonight at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport to assume his new post.

Wisner succeeds Ambassador Nicholas Platt who has been reassigned to Pakistan.

Appearing before the House committee on apprepriations Budget Secretary Guillermo Carague and Central Bank Governor Jose Cuisia said the rejection of the bases accord would lead to an economic slowdown.

Carague said the removal of the U.S. military facilities in the country would decrease the government's revenue collection.

He also pointed out that next year's proposed budget of P [pesos] 308.4 billion would be sourced mostly from revenues projected to amount to P278.9 billion.

Carague estimated a P200-million base-related revenue loss if the bases treaty is not approved by the Senate.

Cuisia said that aside from revenue losses, the country would suffer the U.S.'s withdrawal of its Economic Support Fund [ESF] amounting to P2.9 billion.

The ESF is intended to provide economic support to towns surrounding the base areas.

Cuisia also warned of increased unemployment rate in provinces hosting the U.S. military installations.

Public Hearings on Treaty Urged

BK1508071091 Manila PNA in English 0604 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Manila, Aug 15 (OANA-PNA)—Philippine Senator Leticia Shahani, chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, Thursday said the Senate should conduct in-depth public hearings on the proposed Philippine-U.S. military bases treaty so that definitive answers can be found on the question of trade access, impact on base-dependent communities, and government plans for a pullout scenario.

Shahani made the proposal as she noted that so much time expressing dissatisfaction, fears, and doubts on the contempted [as received] agreement had been aired in the Senate floor.

Yet nothing concrete had been proposed to resolve the problems the country will experience once the Americans pull out from the bases.

"Only when we can have adequate information on these matters and other issues, can we be ready to make decision as a body," Shahani said in a press statement.

Earlier, joint committee meetings were conducted on labor and the oversight committee on intelligence where the base workers question and the security and defense aspects were discussed.

Shahani said her committee will focus on economic implications, conversion concerns, and effects on the country's political relations with the U.S. and other nations.

Shahani said she expects to hear testimonies of key government officials on these matters. The hearings had been scheduled for August 16, 19, and 27.

Senate President on UN, Treaty

HK1508094691 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 15 Aug 91

[By Restie de Quiros]

[Text] Senate President Jovito Salonga stressed today that the argument by pro-U.S. bases proponents that a treaty would still be valid if it is registered at the United Nations, despite not being ratified by the U.S. Senate is nonsense. Salonga, one of the 19 senators who are strongly opposed to the ratification of the Republic of the Philippines-U.S. military bases treaty, clarified that any treaty is valid even without it being registered at the United Nations. He said that the only importance of U.N. registration is that if the world body is instrumental in the talks by the countries involved in the agreement in case a dispute or misunderstanding arises. The Senate president issued this clarification following reports that the Bush administration has no plan to present the treaty to the U.S. Senate for ratification. The reports also said that although the agreement will not pass through the U.S. Senate, it would still be legal and binding. Salonga's group maintains that the U.S. Senate must also ratify the treaty as stated in the 1987 Philippine Constitution.

Meanwhile, Senator Edgardo Angara said that it is better that negotiations for the treaty be passed on to the next administration. Angara explained that by doing this, the two governments would be spared embarrassment which could be brought about by the Philippine Senate's refusal to ratify the treaty.

In related news, Senator Leticia Shahani expressed concern on the fate of the Armed Forces should an estimated $100 million aid received from the U.S. Government be lost. Shahani said that in two years time, Philippine Air Force may no longer have aircraft to fly. Its aircraft may be scrapped because no spare parts and other maintenance equipment would be arriving. According to the Pangasinan senator, all members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines may be turned into 'foot soldiers' due to the government's inability to allocate sufficient funds for them.

Commissioner on Constitution

HK1508105791 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 15 Aug 91

[By anchorman Tony Dungan]

[Text] [Dungan] Commissioner Jose Nolledo explained that the 1987 Constitution does not prohibit the retention of the U.S. bases in the country. He said some of the provisions in the Constitution have given way for the retention of the American bases under some conditions.

[Begin recording] [Nolledo, in progress] ...what I mean to say there is no absolute prohibitions against foreign military bases. But there are some conditions that is stated in Section 25, Article 18 of our Constitution that should be followed. So that is basically that is the intention of the 1986 Constitutional Commission.

[Dungan] Commissioner Nolledo stressed that one of the conditions is the people can ratify the new treaty if it is necessary.

[Nolledo, in progress] The retention of the military bases...[changes thought] facilities held by the foreigners in our country can only be made by a treaty. And this treaty must be ratified [word indistinct] use in our Constitution by our Senate, and if it is needed that is [word indistinct] by Congress should also be ratified by the people. [end recording]

Imelda Marcos Set To Return 2 Oct With Remains

HK1508095791 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0806 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Former First Lady Imelda Romualdez Marcos is set to come back to the country on 2 October if the Aquino government will allow the remains of former President Marcos to accompany her.

According to Mrs. Marcos's lawyer, James Lean, next June which will coincide with the end of President Aquino's term, is too long a time before the remains of the former president can be brought back to the country. Lean also said if the government allows the return of the late leader's remains, the former first lady is prepared to bring home the remains this 2 October. Nonetheless, Lean reiterated that Mrs. Marcos will not come home without the remains of the former president.

Meanwhile, Senator Maceda strongly believes that President Aquino's is firm on her stand not to allow the remains of former President Marcos to be brought back to the Philippines.

The statement was made after the joint public hearing of the Senate Committee on National Defense and Committee on Justice and Human Rights. Likewise, Maceda said if the decision on the return of the late president's corpse is to be left to the military and the police, this would be acted upon immediately. Here is part of the statement made by Senator Ernesto Maceda.

[Begin Maceda recording in English] General Nazareno, General Abadia, General Ileto, I think that they don't really believe that there will be a problem; and I think that the little that I know, I think Imelda and the Marcos children will be happy to have the body come in through Laoag. And that should really localize the problem. [end recording]

Moro Front To Field Candidates in 1992

HK1508124891 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 15 Aug 91 p 12

[By Maricar S. Bautista]

[Text] The Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), the largest of three Muslim secessionist groups in the country, is consolidating its forces to back up candidates it will field for the 1992 national elections, Armed Forces chief of staff Gen. Lisandro C. Abadia disclosed in a report.

He said, "MNLF Central Command has directed field commanders to consolidated their forces in preparation for the 1992 elections."

"They plan to field their own candidates next year," the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief added in his report.

He also said he viewed the "move as a positive sign that the movement as a whole, fully recognizes the authority of the National Government and their present efforts have shifted to peaceful means of bringing change in Mindanao."

The report showed that the MNLF remains the largest of the three Mindanao-based secessionist groups with 21,964 members and 12,010 firearms.

The MNLF, led by Nur Misuari who lives in exile in Saudi Arabia, has 15,177 regular members with 297 firearms, the AFP chief added.

Some military officials are worried, however, that the MNLF's involvement in the coming elections will lead to violence. Mindanao, especially Sulu and the other island-towns, has been a traditional trouble spot during elections.

More than half of the AFP's total force is deployed in Mindanao under the Southern Command led by Maj. Gen. Gumersindo Yap.

Under a ceasefire accord forged by President Aquino and mr. Misuari in 1986, the MNLF was allowed to maintain a number of enclaves especially in Sulu.

The MNLF headquarters is located in Maimbung town where reports indicate they have periodically conducted checkpoints.

There were past reports that the string of kidnappings in Central Mindanao are part of the MNLF's fund raising campaign for their candidates in next year's elections.

Army Builds Up Strength in Southern Luzon

HK1508123391 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 15 Aug 91 p 11

[By Jen L. Jorvina]

[Text] Calauag, Quezon—A Philippine Army division commander ordered here yesterday the transfer of an Army battalion to the Bicol region to augment the 201st Infantry Brigade [IB] in preparation for a big military offensive.

The division chief also directed the 203rd Infantry Brigade here to expand its area of operations to Camarines Sur province and to relieve the 16th Infantry Battalion which is serving as security force in the construction of the P [peso] 500-million Quirino Highway that Traverses Sipocot, Lupi, Ragay, and Del Gallego in Camarines Sur, and Tagkawayan town in this province.

Brig. Gen. Cesar A. Fortuno, 2nd Infantry Division (ID) commanding general, based at Camp Capinpin, Tanay, Rizal, ordered the transfer of the 49th IB with headquarters at barangay Calimpac, Guinayangan, Quezon to Albay province to augment the forces of Col. Victor A. Mayo, 201st Brigade commander, in the military's anti-insurgency campaign in the Bicol region.

Fortuno designated Maj. Carlito P. Gamit as the newly battalion commander of the 49th IB replacing Maj. Eugenio V. Cedo, who was recalled to Camp Capinpin.

The division commander said the 49th IB will undergo "retraining" at its headquarteers in Villa Hermosa, Daraga, Albay.

The arrival of 49th IB in Bicol region will augment the troops of the 1st Infantry Battalion under Lt. Col. Jose Padilla, 2nd IB led by Maj. Panfilo Gonzales, 22nd IB headed by Lt. Col. Danile Magsino, and 16th IB under the command of Maj. Fernando Orbase Based in Tagkawayan town.

The 16th IB was formerly supervised by the 201st Brigade headquarters based at Camp Canuto, Pili, Camarines Sur.

Police Arrest Captured NPA Chief's Relative

HK1508123591 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 15 Aug 91 pp 1, 22

[By Roy Sinfuego]

[Text] The sister-in-law of detained New People's Army (NPA) leader Romulo Kintanar was arrested by jail guards at the Philippine National Police (PNP) Intelligence Command for trying to slip a Swiss survival kit to Kintanar, Senior Supt. Reynaldo Wycoco, PNP spokesman, said yesterday.

Wycoco identified the suspect as Irma de la Cruz, sister of Kintanar's wife Gloria Asuncion Jopson.

The Kintanar couple were captured by Highway Patrol policemen at a clinic in the Makati Medical Center last Aug. 5. They had a P [peso] 2 million reward for their arrest.

A report to Director General Cesar P. Nazareno, PNP chief, said guards conducting a routine inspection of visitors at the PNP Intelligence Command building became suspicious of De la Cruz when her shoulder bag yielded several chocolate bars.

The guards found a Swiss survival knife concealed inside one of the candy bars. De la Cruz tried to trick the guards by eating a chocolate bar while the inspection was going on.

The guard picked up a chocolate bar and found it to be unusually heavy, prompting him to open it. It turned out to be a Swiss survival kit, complete with a knife, fork, spoon, file, saw, bottle and cork openers, and other tools.

Kintanar was first captured by military intelligence agents in 1972 but was later released. He went underground and assumed the position of chief of the NPA Military Command until his capture by police operatives on March 29, 1988.

He was detained at the PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] detention jail at Camp Crame until he made a successful dash to freedom on Nov. 12, 1988, while his former jail warden, then Maj. Roberto Comilang, was celebrating his birth anniversary.

De la Cruz was charged before the city's fiscal office of Quezon City with violation of Presidential Decree No. 9, amended by Batas Pambansa No. 6 and Article 156 of the Revised Penal Code, for attempting to deliver prisoner out of jail.

Bail of P4,000 was recommend by the city prosecutor's office.

Moro Front Chairman To Assume Region Leadership

HK1408143991 Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 9 Aug 91 p 6

[Text] Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) Chairman Nur Misuari or other Bangsa Moro front leaders may assume leadership of the year-old autonomous region in Southern Philippines.

Regional Governor Zacaria A. Candao of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) made the remark Sunday after a short chance meeting with Misuari during the opening session of the 20th foreign ministers meeting of the influential Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) in Istanbul, Turkey.

Candao, however, said that front leaders should abide by Philippine democratic electoral processes should they desire to head the autonomous region.

Candao brotherly hugged [as published] and told Misuari that the ARMM has been organized thru a republic act mandated by the Philippine Constitution.

He said that President Corazon Aquino has asserted the creation of the regional government to serve the needs of some 2.1 million Filipino Muslims and substantially implement the Tripoli Agreement entered into by the Philippine government and the MNLF in Tripoli, Libya in 1976.

Candao told Misuari that the Philippine government has already devolved to the ARMM the powers and functions of 14 vital government agencies and instrumentalities. Some others are due for devolution before the year ends.

"The region we have today is different from the puppet autonomous government instituted by the late Presidcent Marcos, the reason why Bangsa Moro mujahideens rose up in arms against the dictatorial regime," Candao pointed out.

"Today's region of autonomy in Muslim Mindanao is more colorful and powerful. It has the capability to determine the socio-economic development of its people without the national government interferring with regional policies and strategies, all in accordance with and in response to the needs of the people," he said.

Candao, now in Turkey to inform the OIC about the ARMM and its development thrusts, told Misuari that "our immediate concern is to make the people see and enjoy the bounties of progress and to make them feel the serenity and security which progress could bring."

He also said that President Aquino is very supportive of the region's socio-cultural programs, very much unlike the genocidal tendeices of the 20-year Marcos regime.

Mrs. Aquino has even agreed to a four-man trade and investment mission to the kingdoms of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates to attract foreign investors.

The mission which Candao led has successfully induced agro- industrial and marine-based projects, fund assistance for the construction of Arabic schools, a manpower training center and an Islamic Center, and banking investments.

"President Aquino's interest in the success of the mission, aside from her commitment to extend additional budgetary aid until the ARMM has become stable, is proof enough of her sincerity in improving the quality of life of the people in the region," Candao said.

"Offering the leadership of the ARMM to Misuari or to any other Bangsa Moro front leaders expresses our recognition of the struggle and sacrifices for self-determination of the Bangsa Moro mujahideens which, in many ways, led to the creation of the ARMM," he said.

Candao, former legal counsel of the Bangsa Moro front from 1977 to 1985, said, however, that the development of Muslim Filipinos should be the foremost goal of any regional leader.

"And I believe that the MNLF, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front or any other front is not opposed to development," he said.

Misuari is in Istanbul to strengthen the MNLF's bid for political recognition and full membership in the OIC. With him are his lieutenants, Hatimil Hashim and Abdul Baki Abubakar.

Thailand

MATICHON Interviews Foreign Minister

BK1508141791 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 15 Aug 91 p 3

[Interview with Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin by MATICHON newspaper; place and date not given]

[Text] [MATICHON] What has the ministry done in order to improve relations with Saudi Arabia, which have been strained by several incidents, including the murder of the Saudi Embassy officials, the jewelry theft, and, finally, the prostitution of Thai women in Saudi Arabia?

[Asa] Of course, we must try to solve the problems. The murder of the four Saudi diplomats has shaken their confidence. We have reviewed the investigation; and I think the latest findings are close to the fact. We are at the stage of holding discussions with Saudi Arabia again. As for the problems we have now, we cannot export to Saudi Arabia and our workers cannot get reentry visas or new visas for work there. Those are the problems we are trying to solve. There are meetings every week between the Foreign Ministry and Deputy Prime Minister Police General Phao Sarasin and Prime Minister's Office Minister M.R. Kasemsamoson Kasemsi. It is hoped we can achieve a conclusion soon. The case of the stolen jewelry is not as important as the murder of the Saudi diplomats. They want to know about the latter. Concerning the jewelry theft, the investigation was rather slow, but King Fahd has already told us that he was happy to see progress made. We hope to be able to solve all the problems and, with all problems solved, we believe the situation will improve. The big issue now is the killing of the four diplomats in Thailand.

[MATICHON] Are you worried about the fishing problem we have with Vietnam due to the fact that there are several governments in Vietnam?

[Asa] We must pay attention to this problem. We must make our people more disciplined. We must solve the problem by having them under our control. We have 50,000 fishing trawlers. That gives us a lot of responsibility. There are many illegal boats. We must therefore solve this problem first before entering into negotiations with others. We cannot talk about cooperation at this stage. To give an example, there is only one boat with a license for fishing in international waters, but there are as many as 10 boats carrying the same license number fishing in international waters. This is tantamount to robbery. We must solve this first or we will get into trouble. In a deal for joint investment, we must also offer them some concessions. They have already reacted to us strongly now. We must look at the fact that we have as many as 50,000 boats sailing in high seas. With Malaysia, we are in fact taking advantage of them because Malaysia has no expertise. Is this fair to them? We must look at the problem from their perspective also.

[MATICHON] Wouldn't it be a weakness should the Thai Government adopt such a stand?

[Asa] Would it? Concerning the border problem, all have aspects been discussed by the previous governments. It was not started by this government. But we still have to ratify the agreement on border demarcation with Malaysia. There is a stretch of 1 kilometer still to be settled with Malaysia. We do not want others to make demands on us, as happened in the past. We accused them of making demands unilaterally. This time, therefore, we will ask them what in their opinion should be thrashed out. We will do it on the basis of an equal exchange.

[MATICHON] What are the major achievements?

[Asa] We have started several projects. Taking Laos for example, we are laying the groundwork for the next government. In the past, they went to school in the Soviet Union where they spent 2 years in language training, 3 years in ideological studies, and 2 more years in professional training. Now they have shifted toward Thailand for training. We think that this will benefit Thailand in the long run because students who know each other will have good opinions of each other.

[MATICHON] Which is the next country we are targetting for an improvement in our relations?

[Asa] Vietnam. We have lived in suspicion as if we were enemies. We feared infiltration and sabotage from Vietnam. Now we believe that such a threat is no longer there. We do not want them to be suspicious of us. They did not trust us when we indicated our desire to conduct a survey in their country. The problem now is how to forge a better understanding. They have more suspicion for us that we now have for them. We must try to get rid of this negative attitude. This cannot be done in one day.

[MATICHON] What is the image of the National Peacekeeping Council [NPKC] in the eyes of foreigners—what do they think about the non-elected government?

[Asa] The prime minister carries out his responsibilities independently. We did not seek advice from the NPKC nor did they try to tell us to do this or that. Yet, we need cooperation from all sectors. This government has projected an image of an independent government that is sincere in tackling national problems. The government has a limited time in office. The people are less and less concerned about the power seizure.

[MATICHON] What do you think about your work. Is it a pleasant one?

[Asa] It is all right. [laughs]

[MATICHON] Are you familiar with it now?

[Asa] Not yet. In the past, we were more relaxed; but now we are seen on television on a daily basis. We are not politicians and we do not need to promote ourselves. Yet, we are forced to appear on television everyday.

[MATICHON] Will you accept an invitation from any political party or from anybody else to be foreign minister again in the next government if what you have laid down as projects are not completed within this government?

[Asa] My father told me that Thailand will exist for another 800 or 1,000 years, but that we live only a short life. Therefore, we should not cling to any particular person. We should not think that the next generation will be incapable like us. In fact, the new generation will be even smarter than us. Besides, I have never thought of entering politics, not even today.

[MATICHON] Will the government's image in the eyes of the United States improve in future?

[Asa] I think it has improved; they are showing greater confidence. They asked me when the election will be held, and I answered their question. They are still concerned about it.

[MATICHON] Are you sure that there will be an election?

[Asa] I am sure the election will be held. But why don't you reporters think there will be an election?

[MATICHON] Because we are not sure whether the draft constitution will get approval from the National Assembly—political parties as well as the people in general are not happy with it.

[Asa] Even though the assembly does not vote for the draft constitution, we will have an election by April next year based on one of our former constitutions. We cannot delay it because it is not good for our image. Concerning General Chatchai's return, we think we have done the right thing. He is a Thai and, therefore, should be entitled to come or go wherever he wishes. He has not caused trouble to anyone. I don't see any threats from him. When I was in London, I played golf with him. He is strong physically and mentally. I think it is a the matter of time. It is no longer his time; it is the time of others now.

[MATICHON] What do you feel about being called the government of wealthy technocrats?

[Asa] You may say whatever you want. As the prime minister said: he does not read newspapers because there are only rumors. There are unfounded reports about the government quarelling with the NPKC. Why should we quarrel? Where do they get such news?

[MATICHON] We have heard that there will be a cabinet reshuffle involving economic ministers.

[Asa] No, I have heard nothing. Minister Suthi Singsane is a big help for us. He is a well-versed person who is trying his best to protect our interests. Please have sympathy for him. Each minister has his responsibility. Minister Michai Wirawaithaya is arduously campaigning for wildlife protection.

[MATICHON] Any progress on the prime minister's "free trade area" policy?

[Asa] There will be a meeting of ASEAN economic ministers in October, and an ASEAN summit in Singapore in January. We have a limited time frame. We want cooperation with our dialogue partners to be on an equal basis in future. We will exchange with them on looking for investors for our area. We want to make them realize the benefits for them in dealing with ASEAN. We must therefore expand cooperation.

[MATICHON] What is the result of our preparation for the World Bank meeting regarding efforts to persuade investors here?

[Asa] We have got a positive response from them. Now it will be the responsibility of the Finance Ministry. What we have done is to get delegates to attend the meeting. It proves that the image of Thailand is still good. From conversation with others, such as the U.S. secretary of state, we see that they believe we are sincere about holding the election.

[MATICHON] Will business investors have a positive impact on the present government?

[Asa] Businessmen want us to be in office for another 10 more years. They care for nothing else. They have confindence in our economic policy. In fact, there has been no change concerning economic policy ever since the government of Field Marshal Sarit Thanarat. Although we have experienced several coups d'etat, foreigners have always been welcomed to do business here. What has undergone a tremendous change is our tax structure. We should give credit to Minister Suthi on this. As for the massive projects like the Lavalin and Hopewell, the problems came from a lack of coordination in the past. Please do not think that this government is trying to create obstacles to the projects already concluded. We only want to draw up a coordinated plan involving all concerned parties.

Foreign Minister To Cochair Joint Lao Talks

BK1508065191 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] The Thai delegation in the Thai-Lao Joint Committee has been appointed with the minister of foreign affairs as cochairman.

The appointment of the Thai delegation won Cabinet's approval early this week as proposed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Apart from the foreign minister, the joint committee on the Thai side comprises the director general of the Political Affairs as secretary, the deputy director general of the Department of Economic Affairs and the director of Southeast Asia Division as deputy secretaries, and 26 other high-ranking officials from various government agencies as members.

The Thai-Lao Joint Committee, which will oversee bilateral relations between the two countries, will hold its first meeting from today until this Saturday in Cha-am District of Phet Buri Province.

105 Lao Migrants To Be Repatriated Voluntarily

BK1508065991 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0000 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] On 16 August, Thai authorities will send a number of Lao migrants back to their country through a specially opened border checkpoint at the northeastern province of Nong Khai. Sub Lieutenant Kitti Prathumkaeow, inspector cum spokesman of the Interior Ministry gave details and procedures on the repatration:

[Begin recording] Interior Minister General Itsaraphong Nunphakdi has given his approval for a border checkpoint to be opened in the Muang District of Nong Khai Province for sending back 105 Lao migrants to the Lao People's Democratic Republic at 1000 hours on 16 August 1991.

Niwat Phibun, deputy permanent secretary on security affairs of the Interior Ministry, acting on behalf of the ministry's deputy permanent secretary, has already given these instructions to the Nong Khai provincial governor.

With the UNHCR operations, Lao migrants will be voluntarily repatriated from four refugee camps in Thailand. They are: 54 from the Ban Na Pho and Ban Nong Saeng camps in Naphon Phanom Province; 11 from the Ban Winai camp in Loei Province; 39 from the Chiang Kham District camp in Phayao Province; and only one from the Phanat Nikhom District camp in Chon Buri Province. [End recording]

Premier To Push for ASEAN Free Trade Zone

BK1508060391 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Aug 91 p 1

[Text] Thailand is working on a plan, for top leaders of its ASEAN partners to endorse at the summit early next year, which would lead to across-the-board cuts on the tariff rates of member countries, bringing them toward an ASEAN free-trade zone and promoting foreign investment in the region, Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun has disclosed.

In an exclusive interview last Friday, Anan said he had formed a working group of his ministers to formulate a plan to achieve a free trade zone for the regional grouping after having sold the idea to his ASEAN counterparts.

Anan said that he broached the idea with his Singaporean counterpart Goh Chok Tong, discussed it in person with former Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew and sent messages to leaders in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Brunei on the proposal to strengthen intra-ASEAN cooperation.

He took the initiative because he believes that Thailand's economy had become flexible and competitive enough in the regional context.

Knowing that the readiness of ASEAN members to participate in the ambitious scheme varied from one to another, Anan said: "Of course, initially not all six have to join in. There will be sort of different time-frames."

The idea is to try to harmonize the tariff system of all ASEAN nations, he said.

Anan said that 10 or 20 years ago, most of the products that ASEAN members churned out were practically the same, impeding the realization of a free trade zone. But these days, their products have become varied with the broadening of the member countries' industrial bases, and with the emergence of the new financial and service sectors, the prime minister said.

One factor which has contributed to the broadening of the economies of ASEAN members is the relocation of many factories from Japan to Thailand and a few other ASEAN countries, he said.

All ASEAN nations, however, are exporting textiles, for instance, and in a competitive way, he admitted.

He described as "cooperative competition" the new partnership to be developed in the context of the free-trade zone.

The advantages of moving ASEAN into a free-trade zone would outweigh the disadvantages, according to Anan.

For one thing, the markets of individual members would be integrated into a larger market and that would attract more foreign investment, said Anan who has been a strong advocate of laissez-faire and free-trade policy at home and abroad.

Anan said that Thailand gave "qualified support" for Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Seri Mahathir's proposal for and East Asia Economic Grouping [EAEG].

He said that an EAEG would merely serve as a consultative forum for Asian countries in the region and therefore the "parallel" model would not go against his concept for an ASEAN free-trade zone.

Government sources said that Anan has set up a committee, chaired by Finance Minister Suthi Singhasane, to map out a working paper for the ASEAN summit in Singpaore.

The sources said that the committee had met at least once since it was recently formed.

Among the ASEAN members, Singapore and Thailand are more keen than the others to see the concept endorsed and implemented. The cuts on the tariff walls among ASEAN members would allow Singapore, as a trading nation, a better access to individual ASEAN markets.

In the past Indonesia was the most reluctant to see a free trade zone for fear that opening up its market of about 200 million to other economically stronger ASEAN members would harm its highly protected industries. But in the past several years, the economy of Indonesia has improved greatly with the broadening of its industrial base.

At the last meeting of ASEAN foreign ministers in Kuala Lumpur last month, Indonesia did not raise any objection to the concept.

One official commented that Jakarta apparently saw Anan's proposal a far better alternative to Malaysia's EAEG model to which Jakarta was opposed.

Malaysia's proposal is seen by some as a move to create a trade bloc of ASEAN members, based on the fears that the world would be moving towards trade blocs with strong protectionist measures against outsiders. The prospects of the Uruguay Round of multinational trade negotiations collapsing, the move by the United States to woo Latin American nations into its free trade arrangement with Canada, and the looming 1992 deadline for EC members to integrate their markets into a single unit are all causes for concern in Kuala Lumpur. Anan's proposal is however based on the approach to promote free trade within the international economic community.

Premier Anan said in the interview that he did not foresee any serious obstacles to an ASEAN agreement on the free-trade zone concept. One government official agreed but added that the pace of the implementation would probably be determined by Indonesia's stance on the issue.

Envoy Wants More SRV Information on Fishermen

BK1508054991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Aug 91 p 2

[Text] The Thai envoy to Vietnam yesterday urged Hanoi to release information on the condition of the 846 Thai crewmen, arrested on board 84 vessels for allegedly trespassing and illegally fishing in Vietnamese waters, before the visit of Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin to Hanoi early next month.

Suraphong Chayanam, Thai ambassador to Vietnam, said he personally was not satisfied with the level of Vietnamese cooperation in resolving the long-standing fisheries conflict.

He noted that little information about Thai vessels and fishermen arrested in Vietnam were made available to the Thai authorities, making it almost impossible to arrive at a solution acceptable to both parties.

The ambassador made the statement at a joint meeting between Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin, Deputy Agriculture Minister At Taolanon and representatives of the Thai Overseas Fisheries Association yesterday.

In a separate meeting, Vietnamese ambassador to Thailand Nguyen Trung told Wirot Chawanawirat, director-general of the Foreign Ministry's Political Affairs Department that Vietnam would try its best to accommodate Thailand's requests.

The Thai ambassador called on Vietnam to release the names of the fishermen and vessels as well as the places and times when they were arrested. He suggested that Thai authorities be allowed access to those crewmen to facilitate the posting of bail in the future.

To avoid further conflicts, Suraphong recommended that two working groups be set up to handle legal affairs and policy issues under the broad framework of the National Fisheries Policy Committee, whose formation was approved by the Economic Policy Screening Committe last week.

According to Suraphong, the working group on legal affairs should deal exclusively with the question of disputed areas over which both countries claim sovereignty.

The other working group should set the policy guidelines and coordinate with the government and the private sectors wishing to fish or invest in related activities including oil exploration and production.

Meanwhile, Deputy Agriculture Minister at Taolanon said that Asa has invited him to join the mission to Hanoi next month and suggested that Thailand sign a broad fishing agreement with Vietnam to pave the way for private companies to work out details with the local and state governments of Vietnam.

At noted that the development of fishing and fisheries industries with foreign countries should be based on mutual benefit. The Foreign and Agriculture ministries should lay down a common direction for the Thai private sector to invest in the fishing business overseas.

Some measures to reduce companies' risks involved in doing business in a foreign country such as investment protection and avoidance of double taxation should be devised, he suggested.

Anan Meets Chatchai; Anan on NPKC-Government

BK1408134791 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] Speaking to reporters after calling on former Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan today, Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun said he called on Chatchai as a colleague who he had worked with, adding that they talked about personal matters and generic topics and that the nature of their conversation was not political and did not concern Gen. Chatchai's assets clarification. The prime minister said Gen. Chatchai's health was good and that Chatchai had not given him any advice. He said he believes Gen. Chatchai will return to London after completing what he came to do.

Asked about some senior military officers' resignation plan, the prime minister said he had no information on the matter and had not seen any resignation request letter. He said there are certain steps to be followed before a resignation becomes effective, adding that the situation is currently normal.

Asked whether the goverment and the National Peace-Keeping Council [NPKC] have not met regularly enough, the prime minister said there were occasional meetings between the two bodies and that it is not necessary for them to have formal meetings with each other because such meetings could be construed in a negative light. The government and the NPKC are aware of their duties, and there is no need for formal meetings between them. The prime minister explained that whether or not the government can perform independently has nothing to do with whether it has regular meetings with the NPKC but has to do with how it performs its administration. The Constitution clearly sets out the duties of the government and the NPKC, and both properly understand and respect the Constitution.

Commenting on the government's proposal to tax savings deposit interest, the prime minister said the matter is currently being studied by a National Legislative Assembly commission. In any event, the prime minister said there might have been some misconception about savings deposits, which are used by some people to keep their money on a temporary basis. If tax is not collected, tax evaders could exploit this kind of deposit. Therefore, people who sincerely want to save money should use the Government Savings Bank or the Bank for Agriculture which are tax-free or use other types of accounts whose tax rates are beneficial. He said he does not think poor people will suffer from the government's tax proposal because they do not have that much to deposit. The people who might be affected are those who are more wealthy.

Ex-3d Region Commander Quits After Reshuffle

BK1508013991 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Aug 91 pp 1, 3

[Text] Former Third Army Region commander Gen Siri Thiwapan confirmed yesterday that he has decided to quit military service amid growing speculation that other senior army officers who were moved to inactive posts in the recent military reshuffle were also planning to resign.

Gen Siri's statement followed claims by former military boss and New Aspiration Party [NAP] leader Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut [NAP] yesterday that the recently announced military reshuffle, which saw the promotion of several Class 5 officers, has caused "uneasiness" among army officers who were left out and may lead to their resignation.

Gen Siri was transferred from Third Army commander to become chief of staff at the Supreme Command last year before being assigned to a position "attached to the Supreme Command Headquarters" in the recently-announced annual military reshuffle order effective October 1.

"I used to be close to the people in the North for 20 years, when I rose from the rank of lieutenant-colonel to lieutenant-general. I think that to be dumped here in

Bangkok is not worth my life. So I'd better go out and serve the people and society," said Gen Siri, a Class 4 graduate.

Gen Chawalit, the former army chief who promoted the Class 5 officers to their powerful position, said he was "responsible" and felt "pain" at having caused officers of other classes to feel this way.

Asked about reports that officers of Class 1 to Class 4 are dissatisfied with the reshuffle and some may resign to contest the general election or pursue other careers, Gen Chawalit said that he did not know if this was true but he too had heard such reports.

He also said he heard that Gen Siri would resign and contest the general election in Phitsanulok under his party banner. However, he has not yet talked to Gen Siri in person.

He said he was very sorry to hear all this but if Gen Siri wanted to continue servicing the country he could come to New Aspiration "where he will be among people who understand how he feels."

Asked how he looked at the possibility of resignation of officers from Class 1 to 4, Gen Chawalit said: "I don't want to look at it. Gen Siri must be feeling uneasy. He is a first class officer...many of them still have five or six years of service left. It's a shame."

Gen Chawalit also said he has heard that Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong, the National Peace-keeping Council chairman and a Class 1 officer, would also resign before his retirement in September.

Gen Chawalit said he also heard that Deputy Supreme Commander Gen Pichit Kullawanit, a West Point graduate but equivalent to Class 2 officers in seniority, would also resign after having been moved to the higher but less active, less powerful deputy permanent secretary for defence posi.

The MANAGER business weekly quoted Gen Pichit as saying there was no use staying on if he had nothing to contribute.

"My actions in a way precipitated these changes. I take the blame, "Gen Chawalit said.

He added in English: "How can I punish myself?"

He said Thai words normally express feelings better but he could not find one to describe his feelings at present. The only word that comes to mind is the English word "painful", Gen Chawalit said.

He said that this pain started when he heard Gen Siri was quitting and now he's looking for a way to punish himself.

Asked how he could correct his mistake, Gen Chawalit said that this was not as important as realising that he has "made a mistake".

Sqn-Ldr [Squadron Leader] Prasong Sunsiri, a key New Aspiration figure, said he heard reports that Gen Siri may join the party but has not discussed this with the general yet.

While denying that his decision to resign was not connected to the recently announced military reshuffle, Gen Siri said he could not stay still and would prefer to find other jobs to do for the country.

"As a former commander of the Fourth Infantry Divison and the Third Army region, I think I can still do a lot more for the country," said Gen Siri who has three years left in the service before reaching mandatory retirment age.

Gen Siri said that he encouraged other senior military officers who were in "unimportant positions" to follow suit and do other things beneficial to the country.

The resignation of more officers would make the armed forces more compact, he said.

He said he intended to join NAP and vie for a Parliament seat from Phitsanulok Province, home of the Third Army Region.

He said that he was to officially tender his resignation with Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon yesterday, effective October 1.

Suchinda on Top Officers' Resignations

BK1508093191 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] After Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and Foreign Affairs minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, had called on him at the Army auditorium this morning, Army Commander General Suchinda Khraprayun told reporters that the resignation of General Siri Thiwaphan, chief of staff attached to the supreme commander, would not adversely affect the Army. He quoted Siri as saying that he would resign in order to play politics. The military reshuffle was made under the jurisdiction of the supreme commander and Siri's intentions werwe taken account of.

Asked about reports on the resignation of the supreme commander, the Army chief said he did not know who had spread such news. He did not think that the supreme commander would resign because his mandatory retirement is due on 30 September.

Turning to the recent remark by Air Force Commander Air Chief Marshal [ACM] Kaset Rotchananin that he would resign to become the next prime minister, the Army chief said he supported the move that would make him available to become prime minister once a proposal was made. He said that Kaset's remark was good.

Touching on the proposal that the prime minister must come from a general election, the Army commander said he did not know what was stated in the new Constitution and in fact the constitution had not yet been promulgated.

Paper Calls on Ministry To Act Democratically

BK1508022191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Aug 91 p 4

[Editorial: "Interior Must Tread the Democratic Path"]

[Text] There seems to be no shortage of controversies which have kept the Ministry of Interior, particularly Interior Minister Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi, contstantly in the public spotlight. Just a few months back, an uproar ensured when an instruction reportedly given to the Police Department by the Interior Ministry to study the possibility of making the police an integral part of the armed forces by transferring it from the jurisdiction of the ministry to that of the Defence Ministry was leaked to the Press. There was embarrassment all round when charts relating to the proposed changes were published in some local newspapers, prompting the authorities concerned to deny that anything was in the works. In the face of stiff opposition, the idea was quietly shelved.

But no sooner had the dust settled than the ministry came up with another equally controversial idea which envisaged the drafting of a new law to empower police to incarcerate people regarded as "godfathers" without being charged, but with prior permission being granted by a court of law. Again, the initiative, branded by critics as contravening the principle of the rule of law, had been shot down before it took off. Instead, the ministry has opted for reactivating the safety measures already stipulated in the Criminal Code to deal with the alleged godfathers.

The latest move conceived by the Interior Ministry to alter the election of phuyaibaan or village chiefs by substituting the election system with a mixed process of election and selection which has already caused an uproar among the phuyaibaan and kamnan, academics, politicians and students, seems to have cast the minister in a negative light once again. To all democratic aspirants, the moves is being perceived as undemocratic because it will deprive voters of the right to directly choose their headmen.

Also, it seems to run counter to the nationwide campaign undertaken by the ministry to educate rural inhabitants about democracy and how to prevent vote-buying. Hopefully, the 100 million baht or so spent and the efforts given by tens of thousands of officials to promote democracy at the grassroots will not be in vain.

For several successive decades, our rural countrymen have enjoyed the little privilege of electing village chiefs of their free will even at a time when the country was under dictatorial regimes and when national election of village headmen and kamnan is a unique example of grassroots democracy in action. Alas, the Ministry of Interior seems to have overlooked this fact. The planned changes will effectively deprive the rural folk of what little political privilege they had.

The argument given by the Interior Ministry that it should have the right to select village chiefs because they are on its payroll sounds superficial and does not, in any way, justify the abandonment of democratic principle. If the same rationale is applied, then there will be no need for members of Parliament to be elected because they, too, are paid by the Government to perform their legislative function. The challenge by Gen Itsaraphong that any disgruntled headman can resign if he wants to only serves to antagonise and provoke them unnecessarily.

The logical aspect of the Interior Ministry proposal which is worthy of support is that which seeks to cut the life-long term of village headmen to 4-5 years. This will serve as a safeguarding mechanism to encourage the headmen to do their duties properly and efficiently if they want to be re-elected to office to serve their next tenure. It can translate into a major improvement on the present life-long term where headmen do not have to be held acountable for their deeds and many have shown inclinations to amass wrongful influence since they are assured of being in office until they die.

As politicians and the public in general prepare for national elections due to be held early next year, the Ministry of Interior should take concerted action to promote democracy. At the very least, it should refrain from any action that may retard the democratic developmental process such as tampering with direct election of village headmen.

Reports on Major Earners in Past Half Year

BK1508140691 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] According to the Business Economics Department, clothes were the biggest export earner in the first six months of 1991, bringing in 37 billion baht during the period. The next biggest earners were computer equipment, at 22 billion baht; gems and jewelry, at 17 billion baht; rice and tapioca, at 14 billion baht each; while rubber, electrical circuits, frozen shrimps, shoes and shoe parts, canned sea food, and sugar each earned in excess of 10 billion baht. Television sets and parts brought in 5 billion baht, doubling that in the same period of the previous year.

Vietnam

Commentary on Better International Relations

BK1408121591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] Addressing the recent National Assembly session, Mr. Vo Van Kiet, chairperson of the Council of Ministers, expressed Vietnam's desire to improve and develop her relations with all countries, particularly those in this region. Here is our radio's comments in this connection:

Amid the general trend for diversified international relations, Vietnam has been improving and developing her relations with many countries, particularly those in the Asia-Pacific region and Southeast Asia.

Vietnam's efforts in this respect have been fruitful. It is interesting to note that positive changes that have taken place in Vietnam's relations with other countries in Asia and the Pacific. Vietnam's economic and political relations with Japan have undergone major changes in comparision with the past years. In particular, Vietnam's trade ties with Japan have been developing at such a pace that leaves many other countries on tenterhooks.

For its part, Japan has expressed growing satisfaction at Vietnam's open-door policy. The French paper LE POINT noted in a recent issue that Japan is expected to be Vietnam's greatest trade partner, as well as that recent weeks had witnessed positive developments in Sino-Vietnamese relations, when both sides voiced a common desire to quickly normalize their relations.

While improving and developing her relations with the countries in the Asia-Pacific region, Vietnam has also attached great importance to her ties with other Southeast Asian nations. Vietnam's stand is expounded in the documents of the Seventh Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV]. In these documents, the CPV said Vietnam's stand for developing relations with the Southeast Asian countries is actively contributing to the common effort to build a zone of peace and cooperation—a goal Vietnam has been actually pursuing.

In fact, Vietnam has been making favorable conditions to facilitate ASEAN's business activities with Vietnam. These countries are to enjoy equal status with other countries in investment in Vietnam. In recent months, Vietnamese leaders have paid visits to various countries in Southeast Asia, particularly the ASEAN countries, to discuss how best to develop Vietnam's relations with these countries.

A number of economic delegations have visited Malaysia, the Philippines, Indonesia, and Thailand and other ASEAN countries. Vietnam has also received many high-ranking ASEAN delegations coming for that purpose monthly.

According to Vietnamese Foreign Ministry spokesman, this month Vietnam is expected to have working sessions with two ASEAN delegations, namely the Thai military delegation and the delegation of the Malaysian Industrial and Commercial Ministry. They are scheduled to arrive in Vietnam in mid-August to discuss with Vietnam respectively Thai-Vietnam military cooperation and Malay-Vietnam cooperation in post and communication service.

These developments demonstrate that Vietnam is striving for diversified relations and improving her relations with all countries in Asia and the Pacific and in Southeast Asia. In fact, Vietnam is proving its quest to be friendly with all countries in the world community.

USSR, PRC, Others Greet Elected Leaders

BK1408130991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] On the election of Comrade Vo Van Kiet, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee Political Bureau, as chairman of the Council of Ministers, the leading comrades of parties and states of the USSR, Laos, Cambodia, and China sent messages of greeting.

The message of Comrade Pavlov, prime minister of the USSR, reads:

Dear Comrade Vo Van Kiet,

On your election as chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, I would like to send you my warmest congratulations.

I hope you and the entire working people of the SRV score many achievements in implementing the CPV resolutions and continue to advance your country on the path of renovation.

I believe that the relations of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the SRV, between the USSR and the Vietnamese people, will continue to strengthen and develop.

The message of Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], reads:

On your appointment as chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, on behalf of the LPDR Council of Ministers, the Lao people, and in my own name, I send you the warmest congratulations.

The SRV National Assembly elected you as chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers representing the trust of the SRV party, state, and people in you, one of experienced people in the state's leading and management work.

I believe that in light of the Seventh National CPV Congress resolutions, you and the other leading cadres will do your best to make Vietnam overcome the stage of socioeconomic difficulties and steadily advance on the road of progress and prosperity.

I hope that the friendship, special unity, and comprehensive cooperation between Laos and Vietnam will remain permanent, everlasting, and ever-growing.

I wish you good health and hope that you score many achievements in the noble duty that has been entrusted in you by your party and people.

On the appointment of Comrade Nguyen Manh Cam as minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs of the LPDR, also sent his message of greetings.

The message of Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia, reads:

On behalf of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia, the Cambodian people, and in my own name, I would like to send you my warmest congratulations on your appointment as chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers.

I am very happy and strongly believe that with you, as a bright leader, the brotherly Vietnamese state and people will certainly score more new achievements in implementing the renovation and in the national construction during the transitional period advancing to socialism which was outlined by the Seventh National CPV Congress.

I hope the friendship and the close cooperation in every field between our two countries, Cambodia and Vietnam, will ever develop firmly and bear good fruit.

I wish you good health and hope that you score great victories in your noble duty.

On the appointment of Comrade Nguyen Manh Cam as minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Hor Namhong, minister of foreign affairs of the State of Cambodia, sent his message of greetings.

The message of Comrade Li Peng, premier of the PRC State Council, reads:

On your election as chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, I would like to send you my honest congratulations.

China and Vietnam are two neighboring countries, sharing mountains and rivers. The people of our two countries have always had traditional, warm friendship. I hope that we will continue to accelerate moving the Cambodia issue toward a comprehensive political solution and will promptly normalize the relations between China and Vietnam. That not only suits the interests of our countries' people but also peace and stability in the region.

On the appointment of Comrade Nguyen Manh Cam as minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Qian Qichen, member of the PRC State Council and minister of foreign affairs, sent his message of greetings.

Nguyen Dinh Tu Receives Soviet Experts

BK1408133991 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 30 Jul 91

[Text] On 29 July in Hanoi, Comrade Nguyen Dinh Tu, secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and director of National Institute of Atomic Energy, received and worked with the group of Soviet experts after they completed the installation and handing over of Soviet equipment at Vietnam's first irradiation center.

The center, built under the technical assistance program VE-8004 with the assistance of the International Atomic Energy Agency, is designed to transfer manufacturing technology to Vietnam.

Thai Foreign Minister's Upcoming Visit Viewed

BK1508112891 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Sources from the Thai Foreign Ministry said that Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin may visit Vietnam early next month. The sources said that measures to resolve conflict in fishing zones between the two countries will be the main agenda for talks between the Thai foreign minister and Vietnamese officials during the former's visit to Vietnam.

It also said that an agreement on establishing a joint Thai- Vietnamese committee for economic cooperation will be set up during the visit, that Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin will hold talks with Vietnamese officials on issues related to Thai investment in Vietnam and a trade insurance system, and that an agreement on this issue may be signed by the two sides.

Agreement With Thailand on TV Programming Made

BK1408155191 Hanoi VNA in English 1520 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 14—Vietnam and Thailand have agreed in principle to exchange T.V. programmes, correspondents, and to cooperate in raising their professional level.

The agreement was reached between a delegation of the Vietnam television led by Director General Pham Khac Lam whicm visited Thailand from August 7-10 and a delegation of Thailand's Mass Communications Organisation led by Director General Prasit Hitanan.

While in Thailand, the Vietnamese delegation called on Mr. Michai Wirawaithaya, minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office, and Mr. Suchinda Yungsunthon, deputy general secretary of the Foreign Ministry.

Lao Chamber of Commerce Opens in Hanoi

BK1508033091 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 13 Aug 91

[Text] The Lao Chamber of Commerce was inaugurated in Hanoi on Monday, 12 August. Present at the ceremony were representatives of concerned offices and branches of Vietnam and some other countries in Hanoi.

Indian Leaders Greeted on Independence Day

BK1408160591 Hanoi VNA in English 1522 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 14—Vietnamese leaders today extended their greetings to President R. Venkataraman and Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao on the 44th independence day of the Republic of India.

The message, jointly signed by State Council President Vo Chi Cong and Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet, expressed the Vietnamese Government and people's joy at the great achievements the Indian people have obtained in their socio-economic development programmes and in the defence of India's unity and territorial integrity. The message highly praised the important role and contributions of India to the Non-Aligned Movement, to peace, stability, and cooperation in South Asia and Southeast Asia, the Asian and Pacific region and the world. The message added that the Vietnamese people are very glad to see India's increasing prestige on the international arena.

Also on this occasion, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam sent a congratulatory message to Indian Minister for External Affairs Madhavsinh Solanki.

Hungarian National Day Reception Held

BK1508073391 Hanoi VNA in English 0534 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 15—A get-together was held here yesterday by the Vietnam-Hungary Friendship Association to honour Hungary's national day.

Among those present were minister of labour, war invalids and social affairs and chairman of the Vietnam-Hungary Friendship Association Tran Dinh Hoan, representatives of the Foreign Ministry and the Vietnam Union of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organizations and Hungarian Ambassador to Vietnam Szurovszky Oszkar.

Minister Tran Dinh Hoan and the Hungarian ambassador raised toasts to the achievements of Vietnam and Hungary in the national construction, to the further consolidation and development of the long-standing friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Reportage on National Assembly Session Continues

Tran Quyet Reports, Part I

BK1308100791 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 7 Aug 91

[First part of "excerpts" from report by Tran Quyet, chief procurator of the Supreme People's Organ of Control, at the ninth session of the Eighth National Assembly on the situation of law enforcement and activities of the people's control sector during the first six months of 1991—read by announcer]

[Text] Embarking on 1991, the first year of the 1991-95 five-year plan, basic favorable conditions have been created for the country's process of renovation. The multicomponent economic structure has contributed to encouraging the development of production and business transactions; consumer goods have been brought to the market in larger quantities than in the past; and the people's livelihood has begun to improve.

However, difficulties have accumulated and the law enforcement situation has undergone complex changes. Serious infractions and crimes have taken place in various domains, especially in national security and the economy.

Regarding security, in the process of preparing for the seventh national party congress, hostile forces at home and abroad have worked intensively hand in glove with each other. With the help of the reactionary, opportunistic, and discontented elements in the country, they have stepped up their opposition and sabotage activities through extremely insidious and dangerous maneuvers.

However, national security has been firmly maintained thanks to our party's correct policy of and leaderhip over the process of renovation and its determination to advance the country along the socialist path and to reject pluralism and multiparty system, as well as to the revolutionary vigilance of our people and the efforts and activities of our security agencies.

Nevertheless, we must always heighten vigilance and remain ready to smash all enemy schemes and acts of sabotage.

In the economic domain, based on the results of control work in various production and business units and economic management organs, we have found the following infractions:

In the domain of management and use of foreign currencies and gold in export-import activities. Since 1989, certain results have been achieved in export-import activities. Each year, we have received a relatively large amount of foreign currencies. If management is satisfactorily administered, a momentum can be created for the development of production in the country. However, the state still cannot manage all sources of foreign currencies due to the many loopholes and shortcomings in its management over export-import activities as well as to laxity and infringement in the issuance and use of export-import license and categorization. As a result, foreign currencies have been scattered over many places and among various economic organizations, including privately owned economic organizations.

Meanwhile, efforts have not yet been made to scrupulously implement Decision No. 218-QDHDBT of the Council of Ministers and Circular No. 54-TC of the Ministry of Finance on selling foreign currencies to the centralized state fund. Many production and business units have never received foreign currencies through the supervision of the foreign trade bank. They have purchased or sold foreign currencies in cash and also used foreign currencies in trading or bartering goods in the country between themselves.

Many other units have exchanged and used foreign currencies against regulations or have failed to apply the foreign currency accounting system as stipulated in the regulation on statistical accounting and the guidance of the Ministry of Finance. This has led to such practices as abusing the right to autonomy at one's convenience, deliberately doing things against the law, evading obligations toward the state, and embezzling or wasting state property.

In the managerial control and use of gold, there have been general encroachments on rules governing the importing of gold. Many unlicensed units have imported gold to run their business. Some others have used hard currency to import gold, considering it a business to earn profits from the difference of prices. Many units have used gold to do illicit business. They have even used gold bullion in trade operations, as loans, or in settling payments. Some units have surreptitiously brought gold across the border to smuggle goods into the country. This has caused gold prices to fluctuate constantly and influence market prices regularly.

The situation of funds misappropriation and unpaid debts dragging on between production and business units and among localities has prevailed and been prolonged for several years. Many primary installations have sustained losses in their business and gone bankrupt, causing shortfalls of hundreds of billions of dong to the budget. The Council of Ministers has decided to establish steering committees to settle the payment of debts in a centralized manner. Yet, the settlement is still slow.

As for economic offenses, in many provinces and cities, cases of violation, which have been detected and dealt with, have tended to increase compared to the first half of 1990. In the first months of this year, some other offenses have also tended to increase, such as smuggling, intentional wrongdoing, and irresponsibility. Some have caused serious consequences such as counterfeiting and trade in controlled and faked goods. Offenses have been noted markedly in the domains of business, trade, export-import, and circulation as well as through the implementation of economic contracts.

Concerning social order and public security, serious and complex offenses have still occurred. Those localities which have scrupulously implemented the National Assembly resolution and Directive 135 of the Council of Ministers have adopted measures to closely coordinate their struggle against these offenses and have resolutely dealt with them, thus somewhat curbing the activities of criminals. In other localities, by and large, the situation is still unsatisfactory. In some major cities, crime has notoriously soared up in the targeted areas. Some crimes are very serious and organized, many times causing death, spreading over a wide area, and involving the use of weapons.

Criminals have operated openly and brazenly, committing murders and robberies in broad daylight in crowded places and aboard means of public transportation. They have used weapons against their pursuers, threatened those who denounced them, and openly fought against the law enforcement forces.

There are still many weaknesses in the maintenance of traffic order and safety and public security. Social evils are still taking place in a complex manner. In the first quarter of 1991, many air-conditioned coffee shops and bars which are in fact brothels, have appeared in many cities and towns. Gambling, drug addiction, and superstition are on the rise. Causes of crimes and offenses are very complex and serious. There are objective causes resulting from still many difficulties in the process of changing mechanisms. Loopholes and shortcomings in the implementation of the new mechanism, the increasingly difficult economic life, and the ever higher unemployment rates have had an adverse impact on the socioeconomic management task. Moreover, there are also subjective causes. Many sectors and echelons have neglected their socioeconomic management tasks, paying no attention to their control and inspection duties. Partiality, departmentalism, and localism still prevail in some sectors and localities. Corrupt, degenerate, and deviant cadres have taken advantage of loopholes in management to enrich themselves illegitimately.

The struggle to deal with offenses and crimes is neither timely nor resolute in some localities and at certain moments. Law enforcement forces are not strong enough. In some localities and at certain moments, they still manifested some rightist leaning and tried to dodge duty. Some cases have not been dealt with in a truly strict manner.

The central tasks of the people's control sector in 1991 are to control the targeted economic sectors to ensure their compliance with law in managing export-import and using foreign exchange and gold; to coordinate closely with other law enforcement agencies; to continually accelerate the struggle against crimes, paying attention to corruption and smuggling; and to deal strictly with dangerous professional criminals and organized crimes causing serious consequences, thus helping to check the crime situation which is developing in a complex manner.

We should continue to renovate and enhance qualitatively the cadre and managerial and operational control tasks to enhance the effectiveness of the control tasks.

Based on the results of controlling export-import operations in 1990 and through monitoring the situation in various sectors, it is realized that in recent years export-import operations have increased. However, due to inefficient management and too many loopholes and shortcomings, the state has not been able to control the use of hard currency in these operations in accordance with the state regulations, thus obtaining low results.

Proceeding from this observation, this year the control sector has selected to enforce law compliance in the management task, the use of foreign exchange, and export-import operations.

During the various inspections of units, the following outstanding problems have been noted: The management of export-import operations has presented many loopholes and shortcomings. Each year, the state issues various export-import quotas and licenses to many sectors and localities. Failing to exercise close control, quotas have even been issued to units unqualified to run business. As a result, these units have sold their quotas to earn profits or to enter into alliances and joint ventures with private traders.

Sales and purchases of quotas which have occurred in many localities are one of the causes leading to troubles in export-import. In nearly all provinces and cities where export-import operations are conducted, such sales and purchases of quotas have occurred. In the managerial control over the use of foreign exchange, the management of foreign exchange is found to have slackened. The source of hard currency has spread all over many localities. The foreign trade bank has failed to control hard currency. Many economic units have received some hard currency but not through banks. The trade of goods and materials in the country is also settled with hard currency. Many trade units have dealt in dollars and cash. Cash from sales of goods is not deposited in trade banks in accordance with the Council of Ministers decree.

Many units have not observed the cost-accounting system in keeping with the rules prescribed in the statistical accounting law and guidance of the Finance Ministry. They have used dollars as barter goods, and have sold and bought hard currency around at variance with law, avoiding fulfilling their obligations to the state.

In the managerial control over the use of gold, the most common cases of violation are that many localities, agencies, and economic units have taken advantage of the policy authorizing the importing of gold to import more gold than the authorized amount and to illegally deal in gold. Many units have failed to observe the procedures, principles, and regulations on dealing in gold and have not registered their business. They have failed to deposit security money and to pay taxes and have emancipated the control and supervision of the trade bank. Gold import quotas are also sold to make illicit profits.

In the course of controlling export-import operations and managing the use of hard currency and gold, we have attentively detected violations and petitioned units to take corrective action and to resolutely recover the lost assets. We will continue to accelerate this task until the end of this year to report the general results thereof to the National Assembly at the next session.

Based on these facts, we propose that the National Assembly, the State Council, and the Council of Ministers provide guidance for export-import operations, managerially control more closely the use of hard currency and gold, and sternly discipline all units and individuals who encroach on the state regulations.

The Supreme People's Organ of Control has directed all echelons to reinvestigate 224 units of the units inspected in 1990, namely trade business, national reserve, treasury, and energy units. Some 200 units have agreed to take remedial action. Through the reinvestigation, these units were found to have made some progress in dealing with violations. The recovery of money and rice for various national reserve detachments has been paid due attention by various sectors and echelons along with dealing with cadres who have committed violations and perfecting the organization of management cadres in the detachments.

The operations of the treasury network have become more systematic, thus ending the illegal issuance of loans by various detachments. Those cadres in violation have been dealt with severely.

Part Two

BK1408102991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 7 Aug 91

[Last part of "excerpts" from report by Tran Quyet, chief procurator of the Supreme People's Organ of Control, at the ninth session of the Eighth National Assembly on the situation of law enforcement and activities of the people's control sector during the first six months of 1991—read by announcer]

[Text] Regarding the crime suppression campaign, since the beginning of this year, the people's control sector at all levels has actively coordinated with different sectors, echelons, mass societies, and social organizations, first of all, with law enforcement agencies, public security services, and the court, in intensifying the crime suppression campaign to maintain national security, economic stability, and public order and safety in accordance with the various resolutions of the party Central Committee and the National Assembly as well as with Decision No. 240 and Directive No. 135 of the Council of Ministers on ensuring national security and public order and safety.

Concentrated efforts have been made to resolve major cases involving national security and the economy as well as serious and complicated cases involving public safety and the maintenance of order.

Altogether, the sector has handled more than 25,000 criminal cases, an increase of more than 10 percent compared with the same period last year. The sector has completed investigating more than 15,000 cases and has taken action against another 13,000 cases, thus closing 80 percent of its caseload. Most of the cases have been resolved within the time frame specified by the law. Better progress has been made in accelerating the processing of criminal cases.

We have also geared the 1991 crime suppression campaign toward the front against corruption and smuggling in accordance with Decision No. 240 of the Council of Ministers.

Based on the facts about the handling of corruption cases, we realize that a satisfactory implementation of Council of Ministers' Decision No. 240 will greatly help step up the crime suppression campaign and restore the people's trust in the party and state.

Over the past months, the anticorruption campaign has scored only initial results, which, generally speaking, are still low compared with set requirements. The sound guidance of the Secretariat and the Council of Ministers has created many favorable conditions for the anticorruption campaign, thus enabling the control sector to develop its active role in such a way as to effectively coordinate action with the various branches of the Internal Affairs Department.

The anticorruption struggle is still fraught with obstacles and difficulties. The goal of Decision No. 240 of the Council of Ministers is to implement a major policy and an important task. As an immediate objective, members of the Council of Ministers and chairmen of local people's committees should go out of their way to provide guidance over this task. It is important for them to take effective steps to oversee work implementation by the localities and sectors under their charge.

Many ministries, sectors, and local people's committees still lag behind in adopting uniform measures aimed at accelerating work implementation. Certain sectors and localities still do not have uniform and appropriate knowledge of ways to carry out the anticorruption struggle. Some of them belittle the importance of this struggle and even try to impede efforts to initiate legal action against corruption cases.

The operations of anticorruption steering committees are not strong enough. Worse still, in some localities, individuals involved in corruption are also steering committee members. Regarding standpoints and policies toward corruption cases, there still exist manifestations of lack of uniformity and indications of rightism, a tendency to pass the buck, and a wait-and-see attitude.

The personnel organization of law enforcement agencies in general and the control sector in particular is still fraught with many difficulties. Therefore, it is necessary to further develop the role and sense of responsibility of all echelons and sectors. Only a firm and positive attitude can make the anticorruption struggle yield fine results.

Being an important task closely linked with the anticorruption struggle, the antismuggling struggle is also part of the crime suppression campaign. Together with the Internal Affairs Department, the court, and the Ministry of Justice, the Supreme People's Organ of Control has promptly promulgated a number of interministerial circulars to provide guidance over the handling of certain criminal cases, including smuggling cases. The control sector at all levels has made efforts to accelerate the processing of the caseload and to take legal action against serious smuggling cases.

Eighty-one smuggling cases, including many serious ones, were recorded in the first half of 1991 with 297 persons found guilty of dealing in smuggled goods. From those cases already denounced and brought to trial, one can see that for the most part, these smuggling cases were made possible thanks to the under-the-table dealings between private businessmen and state officials who used various means of transportation of the state organs or military units concerned to ferry the smuggled goods. In many cases, the smugglers resorted to the use of weapons and they were ready to resist law enforcement authorities if necessary. They caused many incidents, inflicting injuries on several police and customs officials and border guards. The smuggling situation remains serious. Although the number of smuggling cases is great, only a few of them—less than 1 percent—have been brought to court and the rest, the majority, have only been made to face administrative measures. The trials of those smuggling cases involving state organs have been slow and not strict enough, for there have existed indications of cover-ups, obstruction, and departmentalism, individualism, and localism. A number of cases have resulted in too light of a sentence. The reasons for this situation are that various sectors and echelons have not had a high sense of unanimity and determination to fight smuggling.

Activities of various specialized antismuggling teams are still limited and they are still too concerned about who will be held responsible for recording credits and granting rewards instead of paying attention to measures to be taken to fight, prevent, and strictly deal with smuggling cases.

The antismuggling results obtained by the People's Organ of Control Sector have stopped mainly at maintaining control, at carrying out investigations, and at inspecting measures taken against those smuggling cases that have already been prosecuted. The sector has yet to properly grasp and strictly control the smuggling situation and to promptly discover cases in which criminals have been allowed to slip away.

Since early this year, the People's Organ of Control Sector has tried to intensify its control over investigations, trials, and reeducation-related detention and to properly comply with various stipulations of the criminal code and the law on legal procedures.

Compared with the past years, there has been an increase in the number of cases that the People's Organ of Control Sector has, after investigation, been able to solve within the periods permitted by law. The People's Organs of

Control at various levels have been able to promptly detect various violations during the process of investigation and judgment and have, in a timely fashion, recommended them to related investigative and judicial organs for appropriate measures.

After inspecting various reeducation-related detention sites, we predominantly found that the number of inmates, including dangerous criminals, escaping from these sites is still extensive. After this inspection, the People's Organs of Control at various levels have asked the public security organs concerned to track down those fugitives, to overcome those negligences in reeducation-related detention, and to legally deal with those cases of irresponsibility resulting in serious consequences through reeducation-related detention.

In other activities, the entire People's Organ of Control Sector has implemented the law on inheritance and has continued to carry out those stipulations of the law governing procedures for the settlement of civil court cases and the law on enforcement of civil court verdicts. The People's Organs of Control at various levels have paid attention to inspecting the preparation of files for 5,474 civil court verdicts handed down by the courts of law at various levels. They have also discovered many shortcomings and violations and have recommended countermeasures.

The People's Organs of Control have brought to court and requested legal procedures against 217 civil cases in order to protect socialist property. They have gradually put their control over the execution of civil court verdicts onto the right track.

In summation, over the first half of 1991, the People's Organ of Control Sector has exerted great effort to implement the tasks entrusted to it by the party and the state and has attained some results in general control work, including the anticrime struggle, thus contributing to restoring order, discipline, and law in socioeconomic management. However, given its functions and duties, we found that the People's Organ of Control Sector has continued to display many restrictions and shortcomings. At some local People's Organs of Control, the control over the export, import, and use of foreign currencies and gold is still sluggish. Some localities still do not pay attention to involving themselves more deeply in clarifying the reasons for violations and the responsibility of those units found guilty. The dissemination of criminal information is still weak. The anticorruption and antismuggling struggles, despite some efforts, have still produced poor results. There are still violations of the law on legal procedures and of the time limits allowed for investigation, prosecution, and trials. The personnel organization of the sector has yet to meet the set requirements and tasks. The working conditions and the lives of cadres in the sector are still fraught with difficulties that have lasted for years now and have not been overcome.

Some suggestions:

1. It is suggested that the National Assembly and the Council of State intensify control and supervision over activities of various sectors and of the people's committees at various levels in their socioeconomic management; increase management over import-export work; closely control the sources of foreign currencies and gold; and take drastic and practical guidance measures to effectively struggle against the bad practices of corruption and smuggling.

2. Given that cadres of the People's Organ of Control Sector are having difficulty in their lives despite the fact that they have received assistance from local administrations in addition to their state-provided salaries, in order to strictly maintain discipline within the sector, we have issued a directive banning the People's Organs of Control at various levels and their cadres from engaging in various businesses. As current political tasks require a high sense of responsibility among control cadres, if cadres and state workers are left in a state of deprivation, we will meet great difficulties in cadre training and managment. It is requested that the Council of State and the Council of Ministers promptly come up with a satisfactory benefit policy to ensure proper living and working conditions for control cadres. The Supreme People's Organ of Control has asked the Council of State to allow the People's Organ of Control to be entitled to the system regarding seniority of service and functional allowances as was the case with other sectors. However, no action has been taken so far.

Le Quang Dao Extends Sympathy

BK1408155591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 1 Aug 91

[Text] On 1 August, deputies attending the ninth session of the Eighth National Assembly in Hanoi were deeply moved upon learning that a sudden flash flood on 26 and 27 July caused serious losses in human lives, property, and crops in some localities of Son La and Lai Chau Provinces.

National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao, on behalf of the National Assembly, sent a message expressing profound sympathy to our compatriots in the areas hit by the natural disaster, and condolences to families whose members have been killed in the flash flood.

The National Assembly believes that under the guidance of the Council of Ministers, with the assistance of various sectors at the central level, and with their determination and sense of mutual assistance, the party organizations, administrations, and people of the two provinces will be able to quickly overcome the aftermath of the flash flood and stabilize the livelihood and production activities of the local people of various nationalities.

Amendment to Constitution Adopted

BK1508095591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 13 Aug 91

["Text" of resolution adopted by SRV National Assembly's 27 Jul-12 Aug 1991 session on the "draft amendment to the 1980 Constitution and on the solicitation of public opinion" about this issue]

[Text] Based on the resolution adopted on 30 June 1989 at its fifth session on the founding of a constitution amending committee, after hearing a report presented by Mr. Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the Constitution Amending Committee, and after discussion of the second draft of the amendment to the 1980 Constitution, the SRV National Assembly hereby decides:

1. The Constitution Amending Committee should study those opinions contributed by the National Assembly deputies to condense them into a third draft of amendment before disseminating it for public inspection; and then, taking into account those views contributed by the people, it should continue to rectify and build it into the fourth draft of amendment in order to submit it to the National Assembly for discussion at its 10th session to be held sometime toward the end of this year.

2. To have the Constitution Amending Committee cooperate with the Vietnam Fatherland Front in organizing a drive in October 1991 to solicit public opinion on the draft amendment to the Constitution.

3. The National Assembly hopes that compatriots, cadres, combatants, National Assembly deputies, people's councillors, state organs, military units, mass organizations, and economic and social organizations will actively participate in this opinion soliciting drive. The Council of Ministers and the people's committees at various levels should create necessary conditions for this opinion soliciting drive to produce good results.

The National Assembly believes that our people will be able to build an amended constitution that can correctly institutionalize the resolution of the Seventh Party Congress, reflect the desire and aspirations of the people, and attain the target set by the National Assembly, that is, to amend the 1980 Constitution fundamentally and comprehensively in order to meet the requirements arising from the new revolutionary stage.

This resolution was adopted by the Eighth SRV National Assembly's ninth session on 12 August 1991.

[Signed] Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly

Session Reviewed

BK1508123391 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Report by station correspondent Dinh Khai, providing a review of the results of the SRV National Assembly's ninth session]

[Summary] In the past few days, there was an important event that attracted great public attention: that is, the ninth National Assembly session, which was held from 27 July to 12 August 1991 in Hanoi.

Public attention was not only drawn to a personnel change in the government apparatus, but also to the contents of the resolution of the National Assembly, which was said to have substantiated the lines of the Seventh Party Congress.

At this session, the National Assembly examined and approved a draft of an amendment to the Constitution, as well as various draft laws on childcare, forest protection and development, etc... The National Assembly also examined a report of the Council of Ministers on the implementation of the National Assembly's resolution on the socioeconomic tasks for the first half of the year and various urgent matters concerning socioeconomic activities to be carried out in the last six months of the year.

"The National Assembly also approved Comrade Do Muoi's request to be released from his position as chairman of the Council of Ministers to assume his heavy resposibility as general secretary of the party Central Committee. They also elected Comrade Vo Van Kiet to the position of chairman of the Council of Ministers and held a by-election for a number of members of the Council of Ministers."

Monitoring this National Assembly session, the first thing that impressed us was that our National Assembly has made another step forward in the process of democraticization and renovation. "Prior to their departure for the capital to attend this session, all the delegations of National Assembly deputies had held meetings with the people to listen to their views."

During group discussions, as well as during discussions at the conference room, all the speakers agreed that the activities of the Council of Ministers showed more progress than before. However, they also called for clarification of the specific duties of the Council of Ministers and those of various sectors, especially those dealing with finance, banking, pricing, antismuggling, anticorruption, etc...

"After consulting with National Assembly deputies, the chairman of the Council of State and various National Assembly chief delegates unanimously recommended Comrade Vo Van Kiet, member of the Political Bureau and first vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, for election to the position of chairman of the Council of Ministers in place of Comrade Do Muoi. There were also a number of comrades recommending Comrade Phan Van Khai for the position, but this comrade asked to have his name withdrawn and his request was approved by the National Assembly. The National Assembly elected the chairman of the Council of Ministers through secret balotting. The results were that nearly 96 percent of the delegates present voted in favor of Comrade Vo Van Kiet for this position. The high degree of unanimity in the National Assembly was also shown as the National Assembly release Comrade Vo Nguyen Giap, Dong Sy Nguyen, and Nguyen Co Thach from the positions of vice chairmen of the Council of Ministers."

On the evening of 19 August following the announcement of the election results, "Radio BBC reported that the Vietnamese National Assembly elected a top-grade reformist to the position of prime minister. Mr. Vo Van Kiet is a dynamic person with a determination to carry out extensive renovation in Vietnam. It is expected that Mr. Vo Van Kiet will develop Vietnamese relations with Southeast Asian nations."

Unlike previously, when the National Assembly was in session this time, evil people spread the rumor that prices would skyrocket quickly. But the facts proved otherwise. Price fluctuations seemed unremarkable. This fact shows that our National Assembly has moved closer to the people and has therefore further enhanced the people's confidence in it. Here we would like to speak about another aspect of renovation, that is, at this session, the National Assembly allowed reporters to cover almost all its activities.

"Dear friends: The Eighth National Assembly successfully concluded yesterday afternoon. What remains to be seen is how the People's Councils and the administration at various levels will disseminate the National Assembly resolutions to the people and how they will translate these resolutions into living reality in the people's lives. As far as we see it, if all the people concentrate on urgently implementing the National Assembly resolutions, it is certain that there will be welcoming changes in production, life, and even in the domestic and foreign affairs of our country."

NHAN DAN on 'Success'

BK1508133091 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 13 Aug 91

[Editorial in 13 August NHAN DAN: "A Further Step in Institutionalizing the Seventh CPV [Communist Party of Vietnam] Congress Resolutions"]

[Text] After two weeks of responsible and urgent work, the ninth session of the Eighth National Assembly concluded with splendid success.

National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao's closing speech indicates that all items of the ninth National Assembly session's agenda have been achieved, thereby marking yet a further step in fulfilling the National Assembly's lofty functions in the domains of legislature and control.

The ninth National Assembly session was the first after the Seventh Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Congress. The draft amendments to the 1980 Constitution—which will be publicized to solicit the people's ideas—as well as other new laws adopted by the National Assembly are efforts to further institutionalize the party renovation line set by the Seventh CPV Congress. The upcoming campaign to solicit the people's viewpoints on the draft amendments to the Constitution and the second round of party organization congresses at various levels will surely be extensive political drives in our society. The aim of these political activities is to help the people firmly grasp the Seventh CPV Congress resolutions, institutionalize the party lines and policies, and turn them into practical acts of the entire party and people.

The National Assembly, exercising its control function, heard the Council of Ministers report on the socioeconomic situation on the first six months of 1991; reviewed results attained in the control and inspection work as well as the state diplomatic activities; and noted and highly appraised the great efforts made by people, echelons, and sectors throughout the country in stabilizing and developing the commodity-based economy. The National Assembly stressed, however, that aside from achievements, numerous difficulties and ordeals still exist. It urges all echelons and sectors to concentrate efforts on effectively resolving the pressing socioeconomic issues during the second half of this year; accelerate the struggle against corruption, smuggling, and other crimes; and strive to satisfactorily implement the National Assembly's resolutions on the socioeconomic and 1991 budget management tasks.

To perfect the state mechanism, the National Assembly elected a new chairman of the Council of Ministers and a number of new cabinet members. The National Assembly also decided to redelineate administrative boundaries of a number of provinces and cities. According to this decision, we now have new provinces divided from the old ones. The new provinces include Lao Cai, Yen Bai, Tuyen Quang, Ha Giang, Hoa Binh, Ha Tay, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Gia Lai, Cong Tum, Ba Ria, and Vung Tau Provinces. It is hoped that these new provinces will quickly stabilize organization and engage in production.

It can be said that the ninth session of the Eighth National Assembly has settled many pressing tasks. The success of the session indicates that the National Assembly has effectively exercised its function as the state organ of highest authority, especially when the renovation of our state mechanism is being carried out in the direction of consistently enhancing the efficacy of popularly elected organizations and administrative agencies. This is the great source of encouragement for us to effectively carry out tasks during the second half of this year.

Vo Van Kiet Extends Sympathy to Flood Victims

BK1408152091 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 31 Jul 91

["Message of sympathy" from Vo Van Kiet, first vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, to the people's committees of Son La and Lai Chau provinces; date not given]

[Text] On learning that an impetuous flash flood in Son La and Lai Chau on 26-27 July caused losses in human lives and property, on behalf of the party and government, I would like to extend my sympathy to the people, cadres, and members of the armed forces in the areas affected by the natural disaster and to commend the local administrations and party committees for their great efforts in arranging temporary shelter, evacuation, and relief for the people to limit losses, as well as in overcoming the aftermath of the flash flood.

Based on their functions, the comrade ministers of communications, transportation, and posts; water conservancy; public health; agriculture and food industry; energy; and trade are requested to closely coordinate with the localities concerned to adopt necessary measures to create favorable conditions for them to quickly overcome the consequences of the flash flood and stabilize the lives and production activities of the people in the areas hit by the natural disaster.

Pham Van Dong Pays Working Visit to Quang Ninh

BK1408125591 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 30 Jul 91

[Text] Recently, Comrade Pham Van Dong, adviser to the party Central Committee, paid a working visit to Quang Ninh Province.

Comrade Nguyen Binh Giang, member of the party Central Committee and secretary of the provincial party committee, and Comrade Do Quang Trung, member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the provincial people's committee, briefed the comrade adviser on the economic, political, cultural, social, and national security and defense situation in the province.

At a get-together with local key and leading cadres, Comrade Pham Van Dong engaged in a conversation with those around him on how to study and assess the situation and potential of the province in order to seek ways to exploit this potential. In an atmosphere of openness, many comrade cadres of the province exchanged views with the comrade adviser on what has been done and the advantages and difficulties in the tasks of developing and exploiting the province's potential in terms of mineral, forest, and sea resources and tourism.

Comrade Pham Van Dong endorsed the views of the comrade local cadres on the province's advantages and the need to exploit the potential of the province that is within their reach, in light of the newly emerged factors. However, he said:

You must not wait for nor rely on others and you must demonstrate boldness, both in thought and action, and self-reliance. Many families, units, and localities in Quang Ninh are known to be good at economic work. Attention must be paid to acquiring experience and increasing the number of these models.

The comrade adviser also reminded them to ardently oppose corruption and negativism, saying that this is a pressing issue of great concern to the masses and that only by motivating and relying on the people can they achieve highly effective results in the struggle against corruption.

Council of Ministers Issues Forest Decision

BK1508133291 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 1 Aug 91

[Text] The Council of Ministers chairman on 27 July issued a decision on building a protective forest system of the Dau Tieng Lake project covering areas of Tay Ninh and Song Be Provinces.

The decision said that besides the building of a protective forest system, the project also includes the establishment of a cultivation management system, a water conservancy system, a hydroelectric power station, and an ecological protection system for the whole area.

The decision called for efforts to preserve the existing forest area of 34,700 hectares, plant new forest trees on bare hills, especially large and rubber trees as well as industrial crops. It also called for efforts to promote agro-forestry production, improve cultivation management, supervise land exploitation, and ensure protection of the environment.